

folio

Volume 43 Issue 9

JANUARY 6, 2006

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GOING GLOBAL

Folio examines internationalization:
what it means, how we do it and why it matters



Our international origins

Folio special edition examines our global position

By Richard Cairney

From its very beginnings, the University of Alberta has had an international outlook. Founding president Henry Marshall Tory cast a wide net in recruiting faculty members: our first four professors came to Edmonton from Harvard, Columbia, Berkeley and McGill.

That international outlook continued. Tory's commitment to building a university that served not only its local community, but also the world, is seen in the pages of this special edition of *Folio*. That vision includes the remarkable story of Yuichi Kurimoto, a Japanese student who, during the 1920s, was invited by Tory to attend the U of A and travelled around the world to study here. Had it not been for that invitation, Kurimoto's own dedication to educa-

tion may not have touched the thousands of lives it has.

The university's focus on international initiatives carries on to this day. In her September installation address, President Indira Samarasekera spoke of the U of A's place in the world.

"Excellent students from other countries bring diverse cultural perspectives to our classrooms," she said. "I was reminded of this just the other evening when I met students from over 40 different countries at International House at the University of Alberta – one of 15 such university residences around the world. It brought back memories of my arrival in the United States from Sri Lanka as a Hayes-Fulbright Scholar, and meeting students from every

nation on earth. Some of us stayed, and others returned home to become leaders, building bridges between nations.

"More than 2,000 students from 110 countries attend the University of Alberta – they are the world's gift to Alberta; let us educate more of them – let that be our gift to the world."

That is why *Folio* has chosen to produce a special issue focusing on international initiatives – to find out just how the university influences lives in far-flung corners of the globe, and how students and scholars the world over affect our own lives.

The results of our international relationships are profound, whether it's a faculty member returning home to help during a time of crisis, or a student fol-

lowing his or her passions wherever they might lead.

There are innumerable relationships that bind the University of Alberta with the global community. We have but scratched the surface of those partnerships in these pages.

Our hope is that this special edition provides faculty and staff members with a greater understanding and appreciation of our international relationships and aspirations. A readership survey to be conducted in the coming days by the university's Population Research Lab will measure your response – and remember, we always welcome your letters and comments. Write us at richard.cairney@ualberta.ca . ■

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folio

Volume 43 Number 9

OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT
(EXTERNAL RELATIONS)
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Folio's mandate is to serve as a credible news source for the university community by communicating accurate and timely information about issues, programs, people and events and by serving as a forum for discussion and debate. *Folio* is published 20 times per year.

The editor reserves the right to limit, select, edit and position submitted copy and advertisements. Views expressed in *Folio* do not necessarily reflect university policy. *Folio* contents may be printed with acknowledgement.

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Just do it

Education Faculty 'poster child' for global approach

By Geoff McMaster

Aside from of University of Alberta International, it's hard to find anyone on campus who pursues international connections in a more focused way than the Faculty of Education. Last July it opened an office devoted to internationalization, not so much to drive initiatives overseas as to organize and provide resources for work that's been going on for years.

"They definitely have been a real leader on this campus," said Rae McDonald of U of A International. "They have had a very good outward approach. One of the things that gets investment in the world is the development of capacity for education. And from after the Second World War, the U of A has been involved in projects from the education side."

The university's involvement in building education systems in developing countries began in Korea in the 1950s, with more than 800 school administrators training at the U of A. It soon spread to Thailand in the 1960s and 1970s, and China in the late 1970s. The faculty now also has strong links with Africa, Mexico, New Zealand and Mexico.

It doesn't hurt that the faculty has a strong international profile as one of the first education faculties in Canada, and the first to offer doctorates. For several generations, alumni from overseas have returned to positions of leadership in their respective countries.

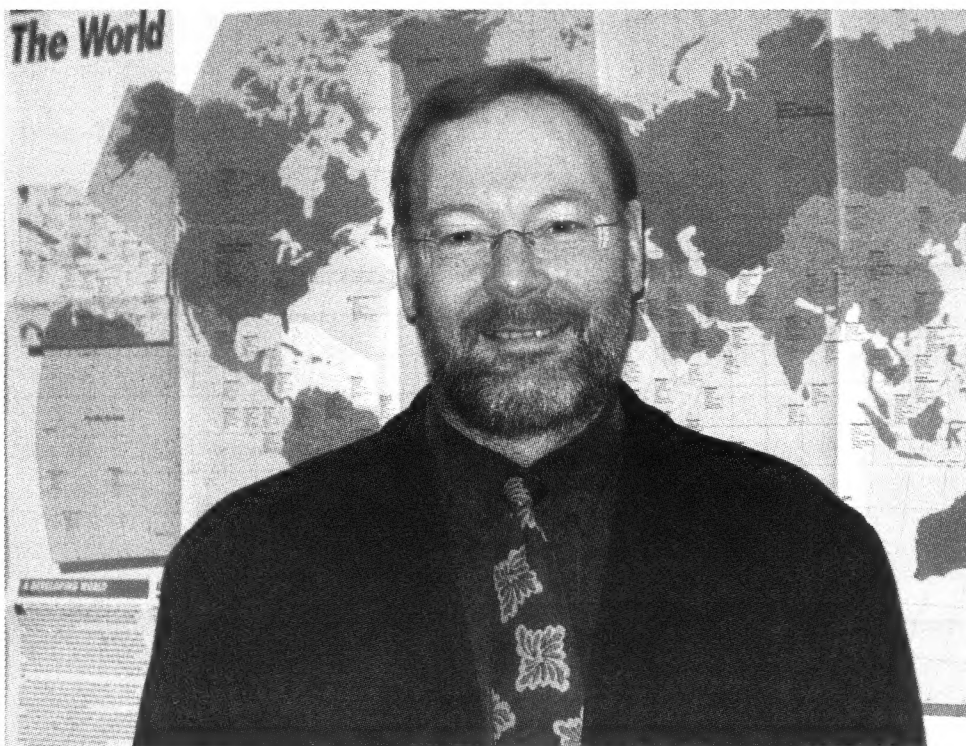
"So we have unbelievable alumni around the world who are connected," said McDonald, adding that the children of those alumni have been arriving here in large numbers to study, because of the U of A's reputation and the loyalty of its graduates.

Dr. George Richardson, director of Education's new Office of International Initiatives, estimates there are more than 40 faculty members involved in some degree in international work. "The more you delve into it the more you realize there is just an awesome array of talent here," he said.

Not surprisingly, much the faculty's international work is in China, a rapidly transforming society whose economy is poised to become the strongest in the world.

"They realize their traditional approach, which really is knowledge-and-content heavy, wasn't really working in a modern knowledge economy," Richardson said. "What they want to do is move to a teaching style where students are encouraged to engage in inquiry and think critically, rather than simply respond with rote knowledge."

Richardson is involved in a project, along with colleagues at the University of Calgary and Athabasca University, called



Dr. George Richardson co-ordinates the Faculty of Education's Office of International Initiatives. The faculty is seen as a leader on campus in international affairs.

Agrateam. The team is developing four distance-education courses for 360 high schools in remote areas of Western China. The schools will take advantage of a satellite network donated to the country by Hong Kong billionaire Li Ka-shing, former owner of Husky Oil.

They are producing curriculum materials for science, English as a second language, student-centred learning and leadership, he says.

"It's a fascinating experiment, a culture change," said Richardson. "We spent a week in the field talking to principals about their concept of leadership and management. The idea is to shift the role of the principal as a manager...making them more instructional leaders."

Drs. Jim Parsons, Tara Fenwick and Joe Wu have also been working for a number of years with Hebei province, to provide elementary textbooks for English as a second language. Their textbook is one of 10 officially approved by Beijing for use across China. Wu has provided textbooks for junior high students, and has also been involved in training teachers there in a more student-centred approach.

But in addition to the Chinese connection, the faculty is also striking partnerships in aboriginal education, with a faculty exchange agreement with Massey University in New Zealand "to really take advantage of the best in indigenous scholarship." That link is partly led by Dr. Makere Stewart-Harawira of the Department of Educational Policy Studies,

a Maori scholar who joined the U of A in 2004.

In Africa, Dr. Ali Abdi runs three projects: one involves helping the eastern Cape area of South Africa transform its curricula, another in Somalia is helping reconstruct an education system destroyed by civil war, and a citizen education project in Zambia is contributing to "the overall process of democratization in Africa," Abdi said. "It's education for political emancipation. Although there is a democracy in name, there's not much happening for the public. Without education, nothing will move forward."

The faculty is also making headway in Mexico and Bavaria, mainly setting up exchange programs for faculty and school teachers.

A major goal for the future is to increase student participation in exchange programs. The faculty has recently established an arrangement in which students who have completed practicums can get additional experience overseas. Initial talks are underway to establish an exchange agreement with a Korean university.

The aim, says Richardson, is to include some sort of overseas placement for every student who wants it. "For me, that would be a major accomplishment."

"It's the best aspect of globalization," he said. "It can have its problematic aspects and certainly does. But this kind of international exchange, intercultural dialogue, takes advantage of our best abilities and brings forward some of the best work." ■

Fostering global citizens

Polls say most Canadians want next generation to cultivate a "Cosmopolitan world view"

By Geoff McMaster and Richard Cairney

The University of Alberta has much to be proud of on the international front, as a glance through the pages of this newspaper makes abundantly clear. But there is one area in which we're falling dramatically behind other Canadian universities – the number of undergraduates who spend time studying abroad.

In fact there's a good chance we don't even rank among the top 10 universities on that score, says Rae McDonald, director of international relations for University of Alberta International (UAI).

Take into account non-exchange arrangements, such as work or research placements, and our status is marginally better – perhaps ninth or tenth, says Barry Tonge, director of UAI's Education Abroad program. But any way you slice it, he says, "we are not even in the game."

To put things into perspective, Queens University has more endowment funds than the total number of awards given on this campus. The University of British Columbia has one fund alone worth more than \$10 million, "and they almost guarantee that every exchange student will receive a minimum award...Laval guarantees every student going out on exchange, minimum awards of money," said Tonge.

At present, the U of A has less than \$3 million in endowments to support student exchanges and study abroad programs, according to Tonge. To remedy this, Campaign 2008, the university's \$310-million fundraising campaign, has a goal to raise that amount to \$11 million.

Last year the U of A sent 207 students out on exchange programs, another 200 or so in non-reciprocal placements. Of those, 28 received awards amounting to free tuition. In comparison, UBC sent out 750 students on exchange programs alone.

The reason for the disparity? Tonge says that when other universities were socking away money for overseas study programs, the U of A simply missed the boat, as it were.

"Ten to 15 years ago most institutions in Canada strategically started to build endowments and funding. I don't know why, but we just didn't get on that, so we have been dwarfed by other campuses."

Tonge believes we can no longer afford our diminutive stature. According to a recent EKOS Research poll, 85 per cent of Canadians agree that knowledge of other cultures and an understanding of the world are increasingly important qualities in today's labour market, and 74 per cent think more students should be exposed to exchanges or internships abroad. Canadian business leaders also want executives with a "cosmopolitan world view."

A brief submitted to the House of Commons last fall by the Association of Colleges and Universities of Canada also identifies international education as a top priority: "In a world where Canada wants to share its values and experiences with partners abroad, the active engagement of universities and colleges creates international education opportunities for students, so that our next generation of leaders has a strong sense of global citizenship and sustains Canada's place of pride in the world."

The brief makes it clear that lack of funding is the main reason more students don't participate in exchanges. Tonge says he has been trying to persuade U of A administrators to fund more exchanges for more than two decades, but until recently there was a pervasive impression students here could afford to study abroad on their own.



The University of Alberta is hoping to enhance its international learning environment and increase opportunities for education abroad.

"I fought with senior administrators for years saying, 'Look at the demographics, it doesn't support that...If you look at the percentage of U of A students that hold part-time employment while they're students, or the statistics for the number graduating with indebtedness to student finance board...if you look at the nature of the population on this campus, it's not particularly affluent.'"

The good news, says Tonge, is that the participation rate for fourth-year students (those in fourth year) in study abroad programs at the U of A is "exceedingly good" at 8.2 per cent. "Nationally we compare pretty well when we look at that statistic...But if you look at UBC, it's over 15 per cent."

Tonge is also encouraged that President Indira Samarasekera has made international education for undergraduates a key part of her new vision for the university.

If anyone knows the value of an international educational experience, it's Samarasekera, who has lived in four countries and earned degrees in three. She's lost track of the number of countries she has visited while consulting for steel companies but knows the value of that experience, and the importance of being prepared for it.

"It is the same industry, but different people work in different ways. They have different ethics and ways of running their companies. It tells you about the importance of understanding different cultures," says Samarasekera. "Understanding what a handshake means and what the customs are is critical to being successful. It has shaped how I think and how I function."

Samarasekera agrees the biggest challenge for students is funding. "Students don't have the resources to pay for a trip to China or India or Thailand. I see those resources ideally suited for philanthropic support, maybe U of A alumni who live in

other countries who have benefited from their own travel and want to contribute to the experiences of students."

There are examples of such philanthropic initiatives. U of A alumnus Gord Arnell has been supporting a program to fund fellowships that bring post-doctoral researchers from Brazil's Sao Paulo University to the U of A's Faculty of Nursing for six months of research.

The university is presently setting goals for the percentage of students who study abroad as well as for the number of international students it hosts, adds Samarasekera. Promoting a healthy and thriving international community here on campus is, after all, the flip side of the study abroad equation.

University administrators are working on a new internal funding formula to improve programs for international students, says Dr. Carl Amrhein, the university's provost and vice-president (academic). The idea is to ensure that the differential tuition fee paid by international students "will flow to those who work with international students – to improve the way we serve those students, to improve the level of campus support," he said.

Other initiatives are underway to improve conditions for international students by lifting restrictions on the kinds of jobs they can take. It is a federal initiative, Amrhein says, being conducted with individual provinces.

"The good news is that everyone wants conditions to change," said Amrhein, who recently visited Aga Khan University in Karachi, India. It is planning to establish an arts and science faculty, and Amrhein, a former dean of arts at the University of Toronto, was invited to share his expertise.

"The trip from Edmonton to Karachi changes the way you view the world, and it isn't the 27-hour transit, it's seeing the incredibly high quality of living we have

here and the challenges Karachi faces to provide basic infrastructure – like water and garbage collection," he said.

International activity, including educating 2,000 students from 110 countries around the world, represents "our gift to the world," said Samarasekera in her installation address last fall: "Let us educate more of them."

It's also important to increase student awareness of opportunities for educational experiences overseas, she said. "You want to make it something they actually aspire to. Why is it important for them to travel, and what do they want to get out of the experience? If you take a student who has never been outside of Edmonton, how do you get them excited about going to Russia or Africa, for example?...They have to be comfortable making that step."

So how do you convince students that these experiences are important?

"You sell them on the notion that the world is incredibly interconnected as a result of the Internet, the global economy, finance, ideas, people – all this is completely mobile," said Samarasekera. "So their quality of life in Edmonton or Camrose or even smaller towns will be increasingly affected by what happens in the rest of the world. Their ability to succeed depends on their understanding of the world."

Alberta relies on international trade for its own success, and Alberta companies are increasingly becoming global.

"The companies that employ our graduates are going to expect them to function as professionals in other countries and cultures," she said.

For Tonge, however, student awareness is the least of his concerns. "Students know about the programs. They're interested in going; they just need the support...If we get money on this campus, my guess is we would probably excel ahead of most campuses and be in the top five overnight." ■

Words don't come easy

Language barrier the Great Divide in education

By Caitlin Crawshaw and Richard Cairney

There's a note at the front of Lisa Alton's classroom that reads "English only please." While it sounds like a simple request in an English Language Program class, it is fraught with academic and emotional challenges, the Faculty of Extension English language instructor explains.

"They have adult ideas, but they haven't the language to express that yet," she said, adding that without the ability to communicate as an adult, students can feel vulnerable.

"Your sense of self is very shaky for a while."

Her students, she says, share a fierce commitment to learning English, but differ greatly in their motivation. While some are in the process of applying to attend the U of A as undergraduate or graduate students, others are career-minded business people interested in improving their English to earn promotions at work. As a result, not only do the students represent myriad countries and cultures, but also a range of age groups.

"It's the enormous variety of age ranges and focuses that's the biggest challenge," said Alton, who has been teaching since 1983. "As a teacher, you want to keep your students interested, but the kinds of materials we use have to appeal to such an enormous range of ages and interests."

On top of this dilemma, Alton must make sure her classroom is a place where all of her students feel at ease and can take risks. Because of all the new things students must adjust to when they come to Edmonton – including vast differences in culture, weather and food – it's important for the classroom to be a comfortable space: "The last thing they need is to not feel safe in their class."

Soft-spoken Enrique Ariza, 32, hails from Barranquilla, Colombia, and within a matter of weeks will be returning home to re-apply for a student visa.



Colombian student Enrique Ariza and English teacher Lisa Alton review an assignment in Alton's English language class. Ariza hopes to complete his master's degree in electrical engineering here but knows his languages skills need to improve.

"I'm taking this English course with the purpose of getting into a master's program," he said.

Since completing his computer engineering undergraduate degree in Colombia, Ariza worked for nine years in the telecommunications industry. But because the industry isn't as advanced in Colombia as it is in other parts of the world, Ariza decided he'd need to travel abroad to pursue graduate studies in telecommunications. And one particular dot on the map stood out to him.

"Canada is a perfect place to do it," he said. "Here in Alberta, they have the most important nanotechnology institute."

Now his hope is to become a U of A electrical engineering master's student, and study under researchers at the National

Institute for Nanotechnology. He has the money and the dedication, he says, but will need the language skills to succeed.

"I started English because I know I'll have to do a good job at the university, and I need my English perfect. I don't want to fail – not because of my knowledge of electrical engineering, but because of English problems."

If there is a popular complaint on campus about international education and research, it often is related to language. Professors complain that they can't understand their students. Students complain they can't understand their professors. And some students feel isolated when they're unable to speak a foreign language that their classmates revert to.

Provost and Vice-President (Academic)

"They have adult ideas, but they haven't the language to express that yet."

— Lisa Alton

Dr. Carl Amrhein agrees language is a dicey issue. While he remains firm on the importance of both professors and students attaining certain levels of proficiency in English or French, he knows it isn't easy.

"There is a level of English or French competency that must be attained," he said. "It's part of the experience of being at a university on an international scale to learn to understand people whose English is as good as anyone else's, but who speaks with an accent. When you leave Edmonton, you'll meet people who speak with accents."

Amrhein said he'd be worried if international students were working in their native language, particularly if it's to the exclusion of other students.

"That is something chairs and lab supervisors would look out for. The other issue that arises in these cases is that the students aren't fully involved in the educational experience. We need to work with students to be sure they understand why it is important that they make that investment to be fully fluent in English."

Ariza's investment in English language instruction is already paying off, he says.

Since taking ELP courses at the Faculty of Extension over the last few months, Ariza says he's far more adept at finding the words he needs to communicate effectively.

"When I arrived here, I tried to find the word, but it was really difficult," he said. "My brain was thinking in Spanish and trying to translate."

Now, he says with a smile, the words flow more freely. ■

Should I stay or should I go?

For one international student, Canada is the obvious choice

By Caitlin Crawshaw

When Dennis Uvbiama arrived at the University of Alberta two years ago, he quickly realized he wasn't in Kansas – or rather, Nigeria – anymore.

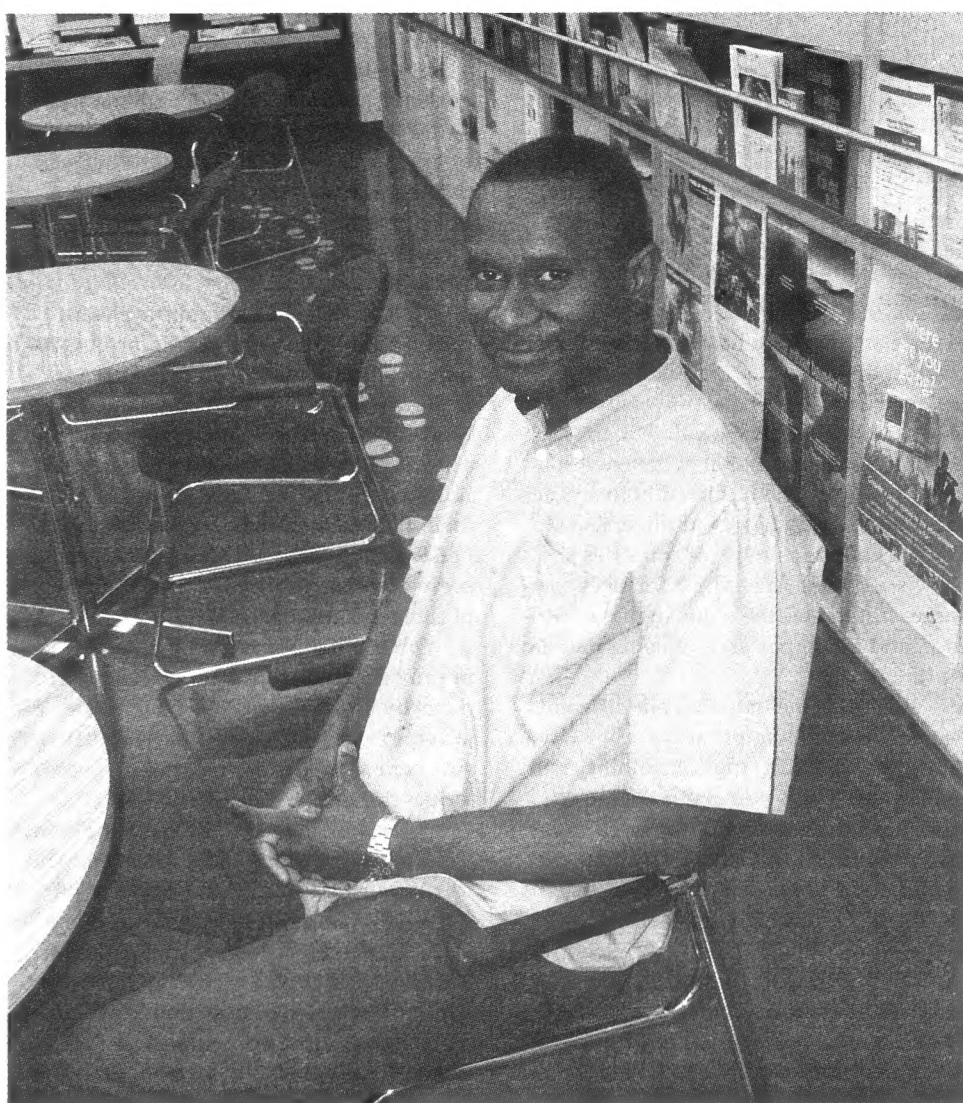
Everything about Edmonton was vastly different from his hometown of Warri, and even Benin City, where he'd gone to university. And the Hollywood depictions of North America hardly provided a working knowledge of Canada.

"I'd seen the New York movies and the Chicago movies, and when I got to Edmonton, I expected something close. I didn't really understand what Canada or much of the Western world looked like. We see them on the movies and think everything's the same – but it's not," said Uvbiama, who completes his master's degree in civil engineering at the U of A this year. "I knew that I had to be flexible in what I'd known before now, and what I would be seeing in the coming years."

Edmonton was a lot colder than he anticipated. Only a week into the fall semester, he realized the jacket he'd bought in Nigeria would offer little warmth. He bought a proper winter coat before the city faced its first dump of snow – in October. He'd been warned that the snow and cold would be hard to bear, but nothing prepared him for his first Edmonton winter.

"One morning I was supposed to go to class and everywhere was just white. My roommate said it had snowed in the night. I said, 'Oh, OK. Here we go!'"

Since then, he's learned to cope with the snow. And Uvbiama has decided the weather is a small price to pay for the life here.



Dennis Uvbiama has decided he'll stay in Canada after earning his master's degree this spring.

"Even though Canada is cold, different from Nigeria, one aspect that comes to my mind every time is the fact that the system really works. You want something, you know where to go, if you have the information. You get there, and if you're supposed to get it, you get it. I know there are bureaucracies, but it doesn't prevent the average person from getting what they want done," he said.

Things aren't so simple in Nigeria, Uvbiama explains. "Sometimes you can go for days without power. Here, you turn on the taps and the water runs, and the lights never go out. Somehow people think it's natural, but it's not."

A lot of engineering goes into our utilities, says Uvbiama, and it's a reliable political and economic system that keeps this engineering in place.

Now Uvbiama is completing his degree and looking forward to a new phase in his life. While he hasn't quite graduated yet, he's already been hired by a Calgary engineering firm, and has decided to stay in Alberta rather than move back to Nigeria.

"Alberta for me should be the leading province in Canada in terms of development and economic growth. And even education-wise, the province is putting a lot of effort into getting to the top," he said.

"And you see that here, in how much money they're putting forward to getting things going. So the rankings might not really reflect that right now, but I'm sure this province is going to be the best in the next 10, 15 years. And that's why I want to stay in Alberta." ■



U of A Engineers Without Borders chapter president Danny Howard participated in a development project in Ghana last year.

Developing people

Africa needs engineering know-how, but has much to teach westerners, students say

By Caitlin Crawshaw

For the students behind the University of Alberta chapter of Engineers Without Borders (EWB), international development isn't about putting a TV in every home – in fact, they maintain that the so-called “developed world” really isn't.

“We're all developing people,” explains Rachel Maser, a fourth-year mechanical engineering student who serves as the U of A chapter's vice-president (communications).

“Canadian society is developing; it's changing. We're not fully developed. So when you say ‘underdeveloped countries’ and ‘developing countries’ – well, we're all developing.”

Maser believes in EWB's focus on “human development,” which isn't solely geared to economic development, and directly involves the people who stand to benefit from the group's projects. The idea, says Maser, is to build peoples' ability to increase their skills and access to technology “so they can better affect change.”

The technological solutions EWB employs are cheap to build and easy to maintain, like a human-powered treadle, which looks a lot like a Stairmaster with a hose attached to it. By stepping on the pedals, a farmer can move water from a stream to his field in order to irrigate his field cheaply. Another device employed by the group, called a multi-functional platform, has a number of agricultural processing implements mounted on it, all powered by a single diesel engine. Equipment of this kind is designed to help ease the workload of time-impooverished people, particularly women, as well as allow communities to rent it out for extra money.

Founded in 2000, EWB Canada is a student-driven organization with 23 chapters at Canadian universities. Since 2001, the U of A chapter has provided avenues for students to participate in development projects overseas, to conduct outreach at local schools and to learn about international development.

Maser herself is gearing up for a long-term placement in Zambia this February. In mid-January she will be flying to Toronto for a month-long EWB orientation before making her way to the African country to help develop low-cost irrigation solutions for farmers.

Current U of A chapter president Danny Howard was placed in Ghana last summer for a short-term placement. The experience offered many lessons for the mechanical engineering student.

“One of the greatest realizations I had when I was in Ghana was that people are people everywhere, and there really are more similarities than differences. Any of the people I met I could have placed in my life in Canada as well,” he said. “My

Ghanaian sister definitely could have been someone in my high school class in northern Alberta.”

Howard, who plans to pursue a career in international development after graduating, adds that the work is an education in how the world fits together. “Something that people are missing is a realization of how connected the world is, and how much impact we have on other peoples' lives just by living the way we do in the Western world.”

Howard and Maser – who lived in Zimbabwe as an adolescent – agree that one of Africa's greatest lessons for them was the understanding that money can help improve quality of life, but it doesn't buy happiness.

“There's a lot of happiness in Africa. I think they have stronger family units, stronger communities. When you are in an impoverished situation, people come together,” she said. “People come together in communities when faced with adversity.”

And as similar as we are, there are many ways of achieving happiness, Howard notes.

“And I think that a lot of Ghanaians are very happy, and they don't have a lot of what we have, but they do have community. Just traveling and living and working with people, you realize there are a lot of different ways to live. I think we can get wrapped up in one ideal when we only live in Canada, and always strive for that one, when maybe there are different ways to live and to be really happy.” ■



Engineering student Rachel Maser demonstrates a pedal-powered water pump used to irrigate farm fields. She heads to Zambia in February to participate in an Engineers Without Borders project.

folio

www.ualberta.ca/foliointernational

Be sure to check out the online companion piece to this special edition of *Folio*. You'll find video presentations detailing international initiatives that show how U of A students, faculty and alumni are making a difference around the world.

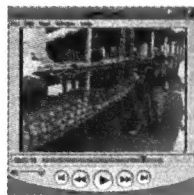
Healing children in Mexico

Elizabeth Jones, a University of Alberta nutrition graduate (1955), began dispensing advice from the back of a station wagon in Tijuana some 30 years ago. Since then she has rallied enough support to build the Hospital Infantil de las Californias, where the majority of doctors volunteer and patients are treated regardless of their ability to pay. She also established an outreach program to service barrios that Mother Theresa once called among the most impoverished anywhere.



Fighting AIDS/HIV in Uganda

Dr. Walter Kipp has spent much of his career helping Uganda deal with devastating scourge of HIV-AIDS. Partly because of his influence on health policy, the country is one of the few in Africa where infection is actually on the decline. Key to his success is a strong relationship with people in a rural district of Western Uganda, and a profound understanding of the physical and cultural barriers that stand in the way of an effective strategy for fighting the disease. Kipp is now passing the torch to his graduate students, who design projects to meet the most urgent needs of the Ugandan people.



Playing around the world

Every year, physical education professor Dr. Jane Vallentyne and team of volunteer students pack their toys and sports gear and traveled overseas to Thailand where they help disadvantaged and disabled children learn to play – children who, for cultural reasons, would otherwise have no outlet for this form of self expression. Over five years the program has blossomed beyond anyone's expectations, transforming the lives of both the children and the students who participate.



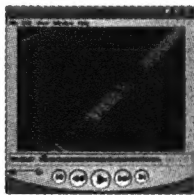
Restoring a river of legend

The great Yangtze River in China has since ancient times been a source of abundant life, food and mythology. But in recent decades the river has become horribly polluted. Its banks, once covered in vast forests, have been severely eroded by over-farming. Four years ago Dr. Larry Wang and a childhood friend, Sam Chao, an electrical engineer now living in the U.S., decided to do what they could to stop the deterioration of this national treasure. They raised funds and gathered enough local expertise in forestry management, soil conservation and rural economic development to launch a reforestation program. What they've been able to do so far, they admit, is just a start. But the results are remarkable.



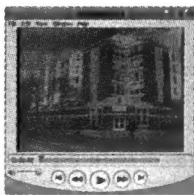
Inciting a choral revolution

Leadership and innovation in the arts are as critical to our social well-being as development projects in health care, agriculture or environmental science. At Campus Saint-Jean music professor Dr. Laurier Fagnan has found a way to improve the sound of choirs by applying techniques of the Italian bel canto singing method, long thought to be suitable only for the solo voice. Already attracting international interest, Fagnan defended his doctoral thesis just last fall and is now poised to shake up the world of choral music.



Living global citizenship

At the University of Alberta's recently opened International House students from around the world, including Canada, live and learn together, providing a model for cross-cultural understanding. The new residence is part of a distinguished global network called International House Worldwide and is the first in the network to open in Canada.



Breathing history

The great Roman poet, Virgil, claimed that Cortona was founded by Dordona, the son of Zeus and Electra. Modern historians speculate that it was once a fortified Umbrian city that passed into the hands of the Etruscans between the eighth and seventh centuries. Whatever your persuasion, this Italian hill-top town is steeped in history as much as in the enticing aromas of Tuscan cuisine. Each year, some 40 U of A students spend a term in Cortona taking courses ranging from Italian to ancient Roman archeology and Renaissance art. They say the experience leaves an impression that is sure to last a lifetime.



Fantastic voyage

The University of Alberta changed Yuichi Kurimoto's life, so he changed the lives of others

By Richard Cairney

Japan during the 1920s was in the midst of economic, political and social chaos. So it was likely that circumstance would have a hand in changing a young man's life. That's the only way you can explain the way disaster and good fortune conspired to direct Yuichi Kurimoto's life and, ultimately, the thousands of young men and women whose lives he touched.

Yuichi was the first international student to earn a bachelor's degree at the University of Alberta. In 1930 he returned to Japan and established three schools over the course of his life, including Nagoya University of Commerce and Business in Nagoya, Japan. His son, Dr. Hiroshi Kurimoto, is now president of the university.

But what prompted his father to pick up and enrol in a university on the other side of the planet? At the time, explained Hiroshi in an e-mail interview with Folio, many young people dreamed of studying abroad to improve their lives. A chance encounter changed everything for Yuichi.

"While my father was a student in Kyoto, he happened to meet by chance a ship's doctor and he showed him around Kyoto. He spoke to him about his dream of studying abroad," said Hiroshi. "The doctor happened to know Dr. Henry Marshall Tory, president of the University of Alberta, who was also travelling on the same ship and attending a conference in Tokyo for the presidents of universities located in the Pacific Rim area.

"This ship's doctor spoke to Dr. Tory about the young man he had met in Kyoto, and four months later my father received an invitation from him to attend the University of Alberta."

After poring over maps to locate Edmonton, the Kurimoto family wondered how it could afford to send Yuichi overseas. It seems though, that his destiny was sealed.

"My father lost his father at a young age, and therefore his "patron" (financial supporter) became his eldest brother," said Hiroshi. "Luckily, a typhoon hit the village in Gifu and many trees collapsed. His eldest brother managed to sell trees in order to gather the necessary amount he needed for Yuichi's studies in Alberta. Later, he would say: 'The typhoon brought me luck!'"

Thus began Yuichi's odyssey.

"Going abroad was like going to the

moon," Hiroshi said of his father's journey. "He had to go on a 16-day trip from Yokohama to Victoria under rough seas, and he remembers his cabin window being constantly under water. He then had to travel another 26 hours by train from Vancouver to Edmonton. There was no information on Canada in those days for travelling purposes. In the family, the idea of going to Canada was a frightful experience . . . My father's mother constantly supported her son while he was away and prayed every day at the shrine for his well-being, safety and success."

With just \$200 to his name, Yuichi took on part-time work and full-time studies in Edmonton, enrolling at the university's St. Stephen's College, studying philosophy, psychology and religious studies. Language was a barrier, but Hiroshi says his father worked hard and always felt welcome. He fell in love with the West's pioneering spirit.

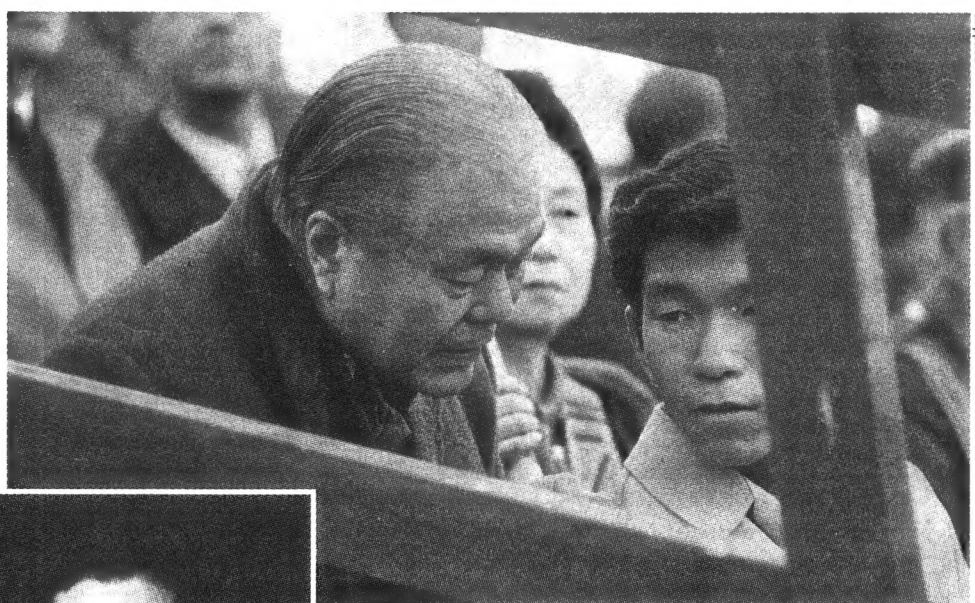
To say the U of A has a profound influence on Yuichi would be an understatement. In 1930, in the midst of the Great Depression, he returned to Japan with big dreams.

"As he had worked in the shipyards of the Canadian Pacific Rail, he wanted to open a railway school in Japan and also introduce the frontier spirit which he had learned in Canada," said Hiroshi.

In 1935 Yuichi opened a vocational school for railroad workers, with 46 students. Within a decade, enrolment had grown to 1,600. The school was destroyed during the Second World War, "and he had to start again from scratch."

He did. In 1953 the Nagoya University of Commerce and Business became an accredited university, with less than 50 students. Today, three schools founded by the Kurimoto family are operating: the Nagoya International Junior High School has 200 students; the Nagoya International High School has 700 students. The university itself serves 3,600 students in four faculties with "a curriculum with a truly global perspective." It is ranked 25th of more than 700 universities in Japan. There are 220 students at the Koryo International Women's College and 210 currently enrolled at the graduate school located in the downtown campus of Nagoya.

"It was a tough time for the family to



Yuichi Kurimoto, his wife Shizu Kurimoto, and one of his sons, Masahide Kurimoto, at a U of A reunion in 1970. Yuichi's son, Dr. Hiroshi Kurimoto (inset), is president of Nagoya University of Commerce and Business, one of the schools his father established.

achieve my father's dream. His dream always came first, and we had

to give up many things, but the dream has now been realized and has come true," said Hiroshi.

Because of a chance encounter, a timely disaster, strength of character and, no doubt, the U of A, tens of thousands of students have been educated in schools founded by Yuichi Kurimoto. There exists today a strong bond between the U of A and the Nagoya University of Commerce and Business.

"During the Second World War, there was no contact between the institutions," Hiroshi said. "After the war ended, Dr. Nelson Chapel and some friends, with the dean of St. Stephen's College, came to Japan to attend an international conference which renewed the relationship between them.

"Since Dr. Walter Johns became president in 1959, followed by Max Wyman, Harry Gunning and then Dr. Myer Horowitz, the two universities began to develop their relationships, which last until this day."

In fact, the schools the Kurimoto family established focus on a "frontier spirit" in

teaching well-rounded students.

"Frontier spirit means to dream and to achieve the dream. There are many frontiers in many fields, and in order to have a frontier, people must have a dream. Without dreaming, nothing is achieved. You need to set a target and challenge it," said Hiroshi. "People must not content themselves with what they have. For example, the University of Alberta must have more international dreams."

In recognition of their achievements, the U of A has bestowed honorary degrees upon Yuichi, his wife, Dr. Shizu Kurimoto, and Hiroshi. The Kurimoto Japanese Garden at the university's Devonian Botanical Gardens is named for Yuichi. And the family funds a scholarship at the U of A School of Business.

The Kurimoto family, and the students for whose education it has been responsible, know the importance of international education.

"I strongly believe that seeing is believing," said Hiroshi. "I encourage our students at NUCB to travel, and maybe next year we will introduce dual-degree programs with overseas business schools.

"To listen to somebody's lecture is important, but you have to see things for yourself and learn to appreciate the different cultures. There are so many ways of thinking, and you have to appreciate that." ■

Organizational culture and health

By Richard Cairney

Think of the person working in the office next to you, or one floor above or below you. Does the way you interact with them affect the education of our students or the quality of research conducted at the University of Alberta?

Professional relationships – the culture of a workplace and of a society – are very much on the mind of Anastasia Mallidou these days. As vice-chief executive officer of the 750-bed Sophia Children's Hospital in Athens, Mallidou is focusing on the professional culture of Greece's largest children's hospital, hoping to improve health outcomes for its young patients.

Every day, she applies what she learned while an international student working towards her PhD (2004) at the U of A's Faculty of Nursing. Mallidou earned her undergraduate and master's degrees at Athens University and chose the U of A over some high-profile institutions.

"It came down to a choice between the University of California in San Francisco and the U of A," Mallidou said from her home in Athens. "I chose the U of A because of expenses. My specialization is nursing administration, and the U of

A is famous for its nursing administration degree. It's one of the top three in the world. It's something the university should be proud of."

Mallidou's dissertation dealt with organizational culture in hospitals and how it influences patient outcomes. Today, she's putting her research into practice.

"I love the topic, so I feel fortunate to work in a hospital to put theory into practice, but it is very hard. How do you put the results of your research into practice?"

Mallidou examined professional relationships between nurses and physicians at so-called "magnet" hospitals – institutions that draw the best health-care practitioners. In those hospitals, she found a highly collaborative environment between nurses and physicians that correlated to positive patient outcomes and shorter hospital stays.

"We can see a difference in the quality of care at these hospitals, so we think that improving this collaboration would bring about better results at other hospitals," she said. "Changing the culture, the way nurses and physicians talk about their patients and the extent to which they col-

laborate in the treatment of patients is very important."

Mallidou is finding that in Greece physicians are more "paternalistic" towards their patients. "Trying to change this kind of behaviour is more difficult, because health care professionals here come from a different culture. It takes more time and more effort, so it's more challenging."

But she credits her international education for giving her the tools to work towards change. An international education, she says, improves the learning experience.

"My mind, after living at the U of A and in Edmonton, works differently. It somehow works in two different ways – North American and European," she said. "It gives me alternative solutions. It is very important. It is like seeing a glass of water as being half empty or half full. Both are right, but it is training your brain to think both ways. It is amazing to learn the same thing in different ways."

The presence of international students on campus also enriches the university, and the greater community, Mallidou adds.

"International education is good not



Dr. Anastasia Mallidou is working to change the professional interaction between nurses and doctors at Greece's largest children's hospital.

only for foreign students but also for Canadians and Edmontonians," she said.

"It is a good experience, because here, in their own town, even in their own homes, they learn about different cultures from people who are from those cultures." ■

Rural roots

Robert Opp's Augustana education has led to big things

By Zanne Cameron

Robert Opp arrived in Angola just as the Southeast African nation's civil war had re-ignited. His United Nations assignment, to co-ordinate post-war aid, changed before he'd even arrived. In fact, rebel forces had recently shot two UN aircraft out of the sky.

"I was in the thick of it," said Opp, who would be responsible for ensuring more than 300,000 refugees were fed each month – if his plane landed, that is.

He had his education at Augustana to thank for what would be a "pretty intense" assignment, doing his best to feed people and not get his staff killed.

A decade earlier, Opp participated in the first Rural Development Exchange (RDX) program offered at the University of Alberta's Augustana Faculty, and it changed his life.

"We left for Ghana for four months in January of 1994. It was the first pilot of the RDX, and it was an extraordinary experience," said Opp, who is now working as assistant to United Nations World Food Program Director James T. Morris. He is part of a small team within the executive director's office that manages the global operations of the World Food Program, which fed an estimated 90 million people last year. He has also worked in tandem with Stephen Lewis, the UN Special Envoy for HIV/AIDS in Africa.

"My current path is directly attributable to my experience in the RDX, Ghana," he said. "It was my first exposure to a Third World country. I was dumped in rural northern Ghana. I have travelled to many countries since, but it is still a unique experience. It stuck with me."

The trip was fraught with unforeseen complications, and many of the students caught Malaria, but Opp came home with a focus and a passion to serve those in need.

He eventually completed a master's degree at the Norman Paterson School of International Affairs at Carleton University in Ottawa. He worked for the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) for a couple of years, but sought a way of getting back to the field level. He applied for a position with the United Nations (funded through a Canadian Government program), which led to his assignment in Angola.

Today, Opp expects he'll stay with the UN regardless of its troubles. He believes in the organization and feels his team is particularly effective. "There is no other entity that can do this work," he said, noting that the UN world food program is one of the few entities that can address hunger and aid issues on a massive scale. "I still believe that I am making an impact." Opp feels that World Food Program and the



Robert Opp and his boss, United Nations World Food Program director James T. Morris, prepare for takeoff. Opp developed a passion for international humanitarian aid while studying at Augustana.

UN can literally "move mountains to serve people in need. It is worth pushing for."

His call to service is still strong. "I work with and meet really extraordinary people; people with passion. My boss and

my colleagues are inspirational. They truly want to solve the problem of hunger, especially among children. From villages to global summits, I see people every day – at every level – who are full of hope." ■

Clothes make the man

But the way U of A alumnus Bernie Mah sees it, they can also change a nation

By Richard Cairney

If you've any doubt that it's a small world, consider the case of Bernie Mah. One of the highest-ranking executives with Giordano, China's answer to the GAP, Mah spent the first two weeks of December travelling the world. From his offices in Hong Kong, he set out across most of China, with meetings in Guangzhou in the south, Beijing, then Shenyang in the north. The tour included presenting 15 Giordano scholarships to students at Dr. Sun Yat Sen University.

The trips were capped off by longer journeys: first to Oakland, California, to visit his mother, then on to Vancouver to scout potential locations for Giordano's first North American outlets, and finally to Edmonton to visit his daughters Tangie and Tannie, students at the University of Alberta, their father's alma mater.

It's difficult to say where home is for Mah. But it's clear to see the way the U of A has influenced his life, the lives of his colleagues and modern-day China.

Mah was brought to the U of A by his uncle, Vic Mah, in 1971. "That first winter taught me that I could survive and even like it if I stopped thinking about this place as a foreign place and started thinking of it as home. If I embraced my new life rather than resist it or compare it to Hong Kong all the time, I would adapt, and it would all work out."

It did. He and Peter Lau – who is Giordano's chairman and chief executive officer – studied together at the U of A School of Business.

"It's a small world and it's getting smaller," said Mah. "Peter and I didn't know each other in Hong Kong, but we did come to know each other in a far-away place, at the University of Alberta. He made the dean's list and earned a Board of Governor's Scholarship.

"I was glad to be in Edmonton, and to have an uncle who was willing to pay for my air fare and tuition," he said. "I was fortunate."

After graduating, Mah worked as an accountant with the Alberta government. When his old classmate, Lau, offered him a position with Giordano, Mah leapt at it.

"I couldn't have predicted that I'd be



Bernie Mah, seen here visiting daughters Tangie, front, and Tannie on campus last month. Mah, a School of Business alumnus, is a senior executive with Giordano, one of the largest casual clothing retailers in Asia.

working in Asia, doing this kind of work at Giordano. I'm grateful to Peter for the chance to march in the retail battlefield."

That battlefield contains a number of conquests. With more than 1,600 stores in 30 countries, Giordano is the largest casual clothing retailer in Asia, excluding Japan.

The U of A, he says, provided more than technical foundations of business. It also infused in Mah valuable lessons in leadership. "As much as business is about numbers, it is also about relationships and your responsibility to others, and to purposes other than your own," he said.

Mah is responsible for global business development at Giordano but also feels responsible for ensuring that the work environment draws the best people.

"It's my job to ensure that the work environment encourages communication and solid relationships, that people feel

their needs are being met and that they can pursue their own career goals and build solid friendships."

One notable team-building exercise Mah was instrumental in was putting a company team in the SmarTone-Vodafone Ferrari Pit Stop Challenge, in which Giordano employees competed as a racing pit crew, besting its challengers by changing the tires of a race car in 9.23 seconds flat.

"When work becomes fun, the workplace becomes a place where people come to pursue their own goals and the larger business goals. These are not just my employees, but my friends, who I rely on," said Mah, who also has a philosophical take on fashion itself.

"I think it was Anatole France (the Nobel Prize-winning author) who said, 'show me the clothes of a country and I

can write its history.' He probably meant it in a slightly different context, but I take it to mean that the growth of Giordano in a place like China illustrates how far China has come, as a people and as an economic power. Casual wear is bought by people who have the wealth and time for leisure pursuits other than basic survival."

Back to that 'small-world' scenario: in trying to schedule an interview with *Folio*, it happened that both Mah and a *Folio* editor would be in San Francisco on the same day. Sitting in a coffee shop in the trendy Polk Street neighbourhood, Mah speaks fondly of his family, having spent the previous day with his mother.

"I always tell people, 'respect your mother. And respect your mother university.' I think the U of A and Giordano have the same goals, to really be international, to be the very best." ■

Maori education scholar shocked at Canada's treatment of aboriginals

Argues we have much to learn from New Zealand example

By Geoff McMaster

As an instructor at Auckland University in New Zealand, Dr. Makere Stewart-Harawira would think nothing of teaching with an infant on her hip. It's simply how things are done in a Maori-inspired culture, she says.

"If you don't have day care, you bring your kids with you," said the relatively new professor of education policy studies. "I've taught many times with kids on my hip. If students are stuck they bring their kids to class...it's about whatever is needed. You take care of it because you're family."

The Maori notion of family, or 'whanaungatanga' is at the foundation of Maori culture and spirituality, and bears a striking resemblance to the sharing circle tradition seen in many Canadian First Nations. And yet, while New Zealand society has successfully integrated many principles of Maori culture and knowledge, Canadian society continues to keep native people at the edge of the circle in ways that Stewart-Harawira, herself South-Island Maori, finds difficult to accept.

"There's been a lot of culture shock," she said of her 18 months here. "While I knew that the position of Maori in New Zealand is much stronger than the position of First Nations people here, I wasn't prepared for the enormous racism."

"Maori culture is much more visible in mainstream society. We are a bilingual country, and our two official languages are English and Maori. So that was a shock to me, to come to a bilingual country in which the two languages are English and French," but where aboriginal languages are scarcely acknowledged.

Stewart-Harawira believes aboriginal populations have much to learn from each other. That's why she has begun work on an international centre for aboriginal

education at the U of A, modelled after similar institutions at the Universities of Saskatchewan and British Columbia.

"There is enormous potential for international collaboration between indigenous networks," she said, pointing to a recent memorandum of understanding for an exchange of scholars between the U of A and Massey University in New Zealand as one example.

Her own research explores concepts of global citizenship and the impact of economic and political integration, such as free-trade agreements and the European Union, on regional communities, especially those with large aboriginal populations.

But she is also interested in how educational systems create policies of inclusion that bring about systemic change, rather than tacking on token accessories of aboriginal culture to accepted ways of knowing.

The current revision of Alberta's social studies curriculum is a case in point, she says. "This idea of infusing aboriginal values...my concern around that is that it's a kind of tinkering – the idea that, 'here's this real body of knowledge and we'll infuse this other body of knowledge into it and make aboriginal students feel better'...but it doesn't work like that."

"We went through this at home, a kind of add-on of Maori ways. So children learned to count in Maori and talk about Maori things. But underneath it all was a kind of deficit model that said the reason Maori students fail in school is they have low self-esteem. So if we insert some of these Maori things into the curriculum, they'll feel better...it was a dismal failure."

Stewart-Harawira argues that Canadians, and the U of A in particular, could borrow a page from New Zealand's struggle with integration. As in Canada,



Dr. Makere Stewart-Harawira, left, at a convocation ceremony in New Zealand. Stewart-Harawira says Canada needs to go much further in embracing first nations.

there has been a drive in New Zealand to bring more aboriginal students through the secondary school system, increase their enrolment in university and train more aboriginal graduate students to take up positions in post-secondary institutions. For the most part it works, she says, largely because education policy pays more than lip service to Maori culture.

"When I left Auckland, we had 40 Maori PhDs working at Auckland University. You can count the number of aboriginal PhDs here on less than two hands."

"If this university had a real commitment, I would see signage in Cree and/or Blackfoot. I don't see that," she said. "I walk around this campus, and I see nothing that tells me this is Cree territory...this

university is located in historically, profoundly important land, but there is no evidence of that."

She admits that administrators have made an effort to change things, adding that it's also up to the U of A's native community to take an active role. And so she has called on members of that community to gather for a strategy meeting in the New Year aimed at making the university's indigenous heritage more apparent.

The concept of family "is what I take for granted as being at the heart of an indigenous way of doing things," she said. "One thing I'd like to see is a way of creating that environment of nurturing amongst all aboriginal scholars and students across campus." ■

Unusual Suspects

Andy Knight works for conflict resolution

By Geoff McMaster

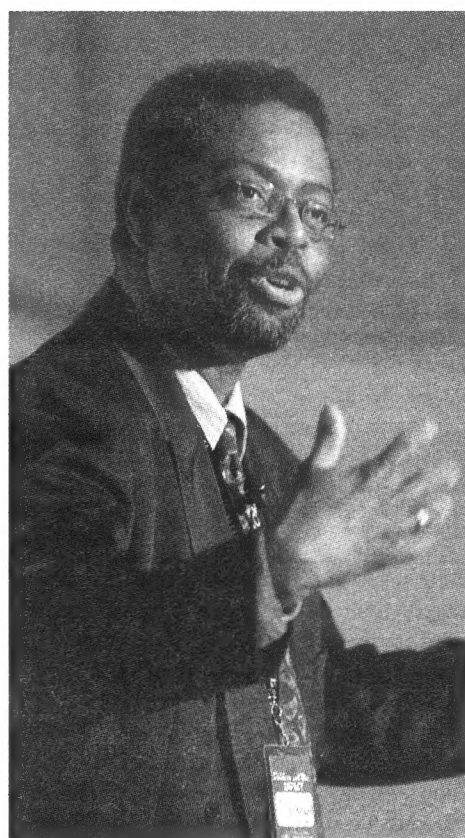
Last year Dr. Andy Knight made a controversial claim in an *Edmonton Journal* column asserting that the Syrian National Socialist Party supports female suicide bombers. The reaction from the North American Syrian community was quick, loud and widespread, but Knight had strong evidence to support his contention.

As a committed public intellectual, Knight has learned to take this kind of controversy in stride. He is, after all, one of Canada's leading advocates for the United Nations as a forum for resolving international disputes. He believes in talking things out, even if it's sometimes uncomfortable.

The Syrian imbroglio only convinced him that more work needs to be done to understand this recent terrorist trend. Thus was born the latest project from one of the University of Alberta's best-known experts in the field of international relations. Along with Tanya Narozhna, a former U of A graduate student now working at the University of Winnipeg, Knight will explore the myriad, complicated reasons for the rise of the female suicide bomber.

"In some cases, some of them are forced, and some do this out of retaliation, because their husbands or sons were killed by an oppressive force – 'black widows' we call them. Others do this because they are completely enamoured with the notion of Jihad." Some are even drugged, he said. "We have to look at it case by case to see what the rationale is."

This latest version of the Trojan Horse began in the Middle East, because women could more easily slide through



Dr. Andy Knight

checkpoints without being patted down, says Knight. But the practice has spread throughout the world, to places like Chechnya, Sri Lanka and Turkey, and that has the international community worried.

"We raise the issue of social contagion as a possible theoretical approach to understanding this problem, and like any other type of contagion, it starts in one place and it spreads," he said.

"A lot of it is Islamic, but a lot has to do with simply being oppressed and deciding the only way of dealing with the oppression is to use your body. If you're completely out-manoeuvred, out-manned, and out-armed, then the only thing left might be your own physical body. And if you think there's a life better out there than the life you currently exist in, then it's pretty easy to make the jump and sacrifice yourself for your people."

Knight is no stranger to hot-button issues. He has been interrogated at the border for his outspoken opinions on a range of international topics and has, on occasion, received less than flattering e-mail. But he believes academics have a responsibility to voice their opinions and share their research with those who ultimately pay his salary – taxpayers. His research engages people in the field who struggle with the issues he examines on a day-to-day basis.

He has, for example, travelled extensively across Africa and hosted a major conference at the U of A to address the problem of children and armed conflict, the fruits of which will be released next year through University of Alberta Press. In addition to gathering testimony and examining the high costs of children in war, everything from psycho-social illnesses to the physical devastation of land mines, the book will suggest concrete ways of holding governments to promises of protection.

"We know that many of these legal conventions and treaties and protocols are simply paper protections, in the sense

they are not adhered to by rebel forces and sometimes by governments who sign onto them," he said. "If these things aren't working, then what can we do to develop mechanisms for children? That's what we're working on right now."

As a native of Barbados and a specialist on the impact of globalization on small states, Knight is also keenly interested in free trade negotiations involving the Caribbean. He recently returned from a conference in Trinidad and Tobago on the matter. He says people in the region are leery of any agreement with the United States, such as the Free Trade Area of the Americas, that might come with ominous strings attached.

"Trade agreements are not just trade agreements anymore. They are linked to things like immigration, having stronger borders, customs agencies, stopping the trafficking of criminal elements, and so on. Free trade seems to be tied not just to economics but to security. There seems to be some hidden agendas on the part of America."

With all of the violence, suffering and broken promises, some would say it's an ugly world Knight has chosen to examine. But he takes heart from the growing networks of resistance and solidarity around the world, and also from the organization he has become somewhat famous for championing, despite its tarnished reputation.

"The world as we know it is much smaller than it has been in the past, and many of the problems are interconnected and cannot be dealt with by individual states acting on their own. The United

The road less travelled

Mural reflects alumnus' international education experience

By Ian Mulder

In August 2001, I departed Edmonton for Ankara, the capital city of Turkey, located in the central steppes, an overnight train journey from Istanbul. I was there as an exchange student at Middle East Technical University (METU) in my fourth year of undergraduate studies. I knew next to nothing about the country, save for the fact it seemed far away and foreign, when I made the decision to go. And why not? It was so easy: pay University of Alberta fees here, sign up for some courses, hope they'll transfer back to credit your degree, pack your bags, and go.

Little did I know when I landed at Ataturk International Airport and was greeted by a fellow METU student, that my time there would be among the most moving and meaningful experiences of my university life. Nor did I know of the wonderful friends I would meet and in whose homes and with whose families I would learn and share so much. And thanks to Turkish hospitality, I probably never ate so much either!

The choices we make in life often lead us down new roads that we do not know exist until we walk them. So many doors opened for me through my experience in Turkey, and little did I know that a few

years later I would be back at the U of A Education Abroad office painting a large mural on the theme of 'Transformation through Study Abroad'.

Living in Turkey for nearly a year and studying at what turned out to be one of the top universities in the region, I had tremendous opportunities: I met famous artists; had drinks with high-ranking, French-speaking Turkish Army officials; I travelled a great deal of the country and learned about the people and the history of the area. I saw ways of living that were so different from my own.

I watched the Whirling Dervishes perform in the ancient city of Konya, the site of the tomb of the great Persian poet, Rumi. I hiked the ruins of Troy and crossed the Bosphorus Strait and walked the hills of Galipoli, bearing witness to the history of an ancient land. I saw the sun rise with friends from Turkey, Germany and the United States over bottles of Turkish wine in Cappadocia, a region of windswept sandstone, where to this day people live in dwellings carved into the side of the great rock flutes.

I spent nearly a year in Turkey, mostly as a student, but later in Istanbul painting, reading and teaching English two

days a week to make rent and food, while immersing myself in that great city.

When I returned, I spent another semester at the U of A before graduating and moving on to other things. However, I remained a volunteer with the Education Abroad Program through their STARS program. In the fall of 2004, I volunteered at the annual Study Abroad Fair to sit at a table and represent the METU exchange program. There I met and spoke with Rowena del Rosario, Education Abroad promotions and volunteer administrator. We spoke of my time in Turkey and what I had been doing since graduation. I spoke of the studio that I ran and the kinds of visual arts projects I was involved with, namely murals. Rowena told me about the new Study Abroad office in HUB mall and their desire to bring it to life, and that they had, in fact, thought about a mural.

I later met with Barry Tonge, the director of Education Abroad, and we all agreed on a project. Many months later we had a mural, painted on panels that I had worked on in my studio and then mounted on site. The suggested theme was 'transformation' and, drawing on my own experience, I tried to create a tableau that suggested in a

somewhat poetic and abstract fashion, the experience of study abroad that the centre facilitates and promotes.

I tried to express a sense of movement, the shifting of perspective and the altering of one's world view that international experience can bring. I wanted to demonstrate the changes that one might feel in the broadening of one's own horizon. The piece is full of allusions to flight, the geography of the Earth's surface and places on the globe.

I wanted to reflect the opportunities available to the student and the stretching of one's being that occurs abroad in the midst of different circumstances within different cultures.

It was a great project for me and probably one of the most personally involving and aesthetically challenging. The experience of designing and painting the mural mirrored my own experience abroad and I am thankful for both opportunities.

(Ian Mulder graduated from the University of Alberta in 2002 with a BA, majoring in philosophy and minoring in art and design. The Education Abroad Program co-ordinates various international learning opportunities for U of A students as they earn credit towards their degrees.) ■

Sweat equity

Life in Ghana ER offers unforgettable lessons

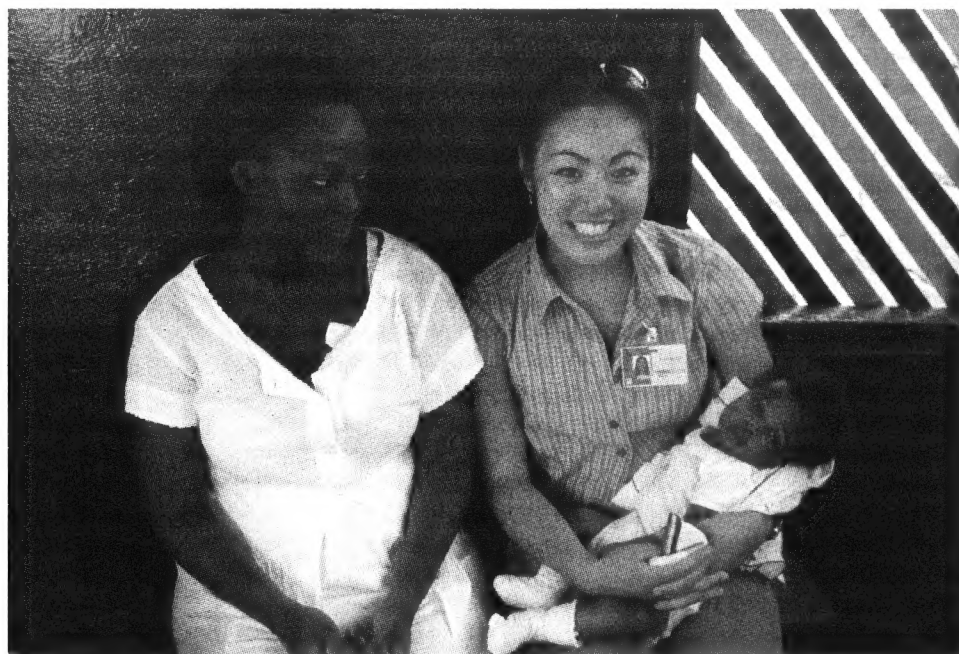
By Terry Te

Through heavy metal doors, I am led into a dark hallway lined with stretchers upon which lay the sick, injured and dying. Intravenous lines hang from rusty nails on wooden poles. Patients' eyes stare intently at me with a desperate plea for help. I am overcome by a smell I cannot place, but will never forget.

The small admission area is full of people who've been waiting for hours, perhaps the entire day, to see the few physicians available. They may walk away with over-priced antibiotics or be admitted and continue to pay for service. The lack of circulating air makes the sick feel sicker and the healthy feel helpless. Even now, with all that happened in those short eight hours, I still do not know how I managed to survive my first day in the emergency room in Ghana.

From day one of nursing school, being able to complete my senior practicum abroad was a primary goal – international health was something I planned to work toward in my career. Ghana, in West Africa, seemed to be the ideal choice. Where else would I gain first-hand experience about the concepts of primary health care and health promotion, two topics that are constantly ingrained in our minds during four years of school?

Despite seemingly endless hours of preparation, nothing could have prepared me for the 10 weeks I spent in Ghana. What struck me upon arrival in Accra, the capital city, were the heat, smells and the bitter poverty in a city where the average person makes less than \$400 Canadian annually. The moment I stepped off the plane, I began to sweat. It continued until the day I left. A handkerchief became as much a part of my wardrobe as my developing tan. But while I could get used to the heat, it was the smell of raw sewage, rancid



Nursing alumnus Terry Te gained hands-on experience in Ghana.

cooking oil and human closeness that I had the most difficulty with. It is not surprising that in a city of one million people, mouth-breathing and lack of personal space became the norm.

My first encounter with the poverty of Africa occurred on the car ride from the airport. My senses were in overdrive. The sight of locals living in slums next to open sewers was something I could not divert my attention from. Here I was, speechless and far from the everyday comforts of home, experiencing a developing country. But during my short stay, despite the lack of money, education and sanitation, these beautiful people displayed warmth, generosity, and a great passion for life – something I will never forget.

Adapting to a different country and an entirely different lifestyle took time and

time seemed to slow down. There was no longer a rush to get from point A to point B; people actually took the time to get to know one another, and if something could not be done today, well...there was always tomorrow. Music always filled the air, smiles from children melted my heart, and taking the time to enjoy life was the most valuable experience of all.

Having the opportunity to work in emergency and the neo-natal intensive care unit of a major hospital, being on the front line in community clinics and taking part in a prevention program for AIDS and STDs sponsored by Health Canada truly shaped my outlook as a nurse. I quickly discovered, however, that acute care in Ghana was not my niche. Working at Korle-Bu Hospital was an eye-opener that amplified my appreciation for Canadian

health care.

It was particularly difficult to see the many cases come into the emergency room, and know how much more could have been done if only we were in Canada. But despite the lack of resources, the staff was quite industrious in finding solutions. Primary health care delivery was almost text-book perfect at the Weija clinic, where our main focus was on maternal and child health. Most days were spent setting up field clinics for growth charting, immunization, nutrition and family planning. The daily turnout was never short of 100 mothers and their children, and the informality of the clinics made the nurse-patient relationship much more meaningful. I finally realized the importance and true meaning of community nursing. The opportunity to sit and speak with street workers as part of the West African Project to Combat AIDS and STDs, and to discuss concerns and collaborate with other colleagues on solutions, was a teaching experience that could never be found in a text book.

Nursing in another culture was a character-building experience. While I was always aware of the differences in Ghanaian and Canadian culture, I learned to appreciate these differences, as well as see the similarities that make us all human.

The experience of nursing abroad has broadened my view of cross-cultural nursing and different methods of health care delivery. But more importantly, being in Ghana opened my eyes to a new appreciation of other cultures and the realization that we all have the power and responsibility to help each other, no matter where we are in the world.

(Terry Te graduated this year from the University of Alberta with a nursing degree and is currently working in Edmonton as a home care nurse.) ■

A wave of compassion

When his family and country needed help, Laki Goonewardene responded

By Lee Craig

When a tsunami hammered his homeland in December of 2004, Dr. Laki Goonewardene could hardly believe the scenes of devastation and salvation that played out on television news broadcasts.

He remembers watching the story of 20 children from the Samaritans Children's Home orphanage who escaped the tsunami, although their home was destroyed.

"The man in charge had the presence of mind to put the children into a boat and take them out into the sea, just before the tsunami," said Goonewardene, a professor in the Department of Agriculture, Food, and Nutritional Science.

"The nature of the tsunami is that it only gains momentum when it hits land, otherwise it travels under water."

Goonewardene felt compelled to return to his homeland with whatever help he could round up. He travelled to the tsunami-stricken nation several weeks later with clothing, medicine, and \$10,000 raised by Alberta church groups, agencies, and individuals who wanted to help people recover from the disaster.

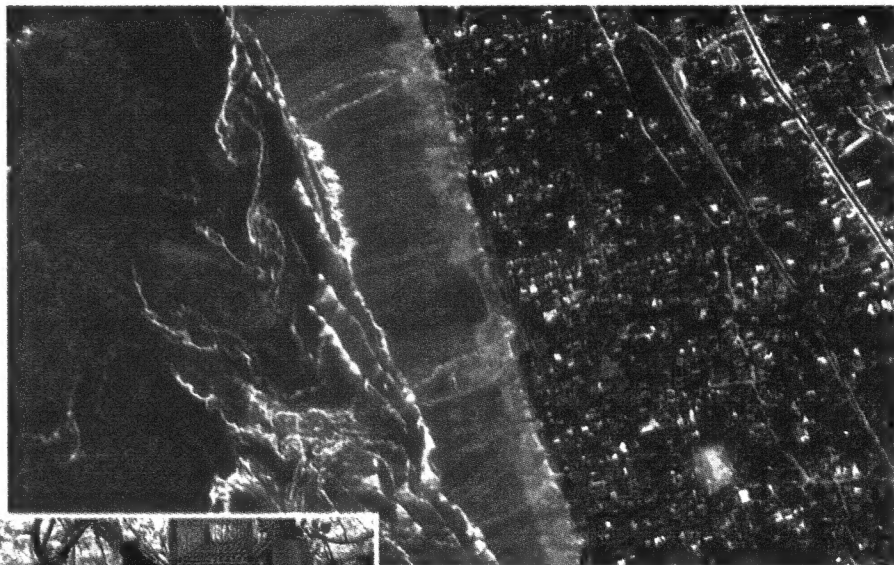
He joined his sister, Indraneela Fernando, who lives in Colombo and is the president of the YWCA in Sri Lanka, and began distributing money and aid to people injured and left destitute by the tsunami.

"It was a huge disaster. A number of organizations were helping, but as an individual I could also help. When it happened, a lot of people, a lot of co-workers, were asking me, 'What's happening? Can we help out?' Then I said, 'OK, I will go.' I wanted to go to the refugee camps and help out individuals because there was an immediate need," said Goonewardene.

"We may not be able to change the world, but we can improve the quality of life for a few."

Although the YWCA's major project in later months was the construction of permanent housing, temporary shelters were clearly the first priority, along with food and medical care, Goonewardene said.

The orphanage received some of the money he had brought to help rebuild, but some Sri Lankans, including the orphans, faced another complication. When it came time to build permanent structures, he added, doing so proved difficult for non-governmental organizations (NGOs) because government policy had not been clearly determined: the size of housing units and where to build



them were in question. As well, the government announced that housing should be built no less than 100 metres from the ocean, which also complicated plans.

The NGOs "tried their best to improve the quality of life for people," said Goonewardene, until the housing decisions had been made by the government. These groups had often leased or bought land to operate on, driving up the price of buying or leasing land. A building or land was hard for

many NGOs to buy or lease.

Other problems needed to be solved as well. It was as though the nation was starting all over, with nothing.

"People lost everything," he said. "They needed food, shelter, clothing, cooking utensils. In some cases they had lost their identity cards or their land titles. Some government offices in the areas had been affected and files destroyed. How do you prove who you are? You have practically lost your identity."

And yet that could be the least of their worries. Goonewardene will never forget, in his travels through Sri Lanka, seeing the wreckage of a train in which a reported 1,500 people died. It has been estimated that 31,000 people died in the tsunami in Sri Lanka alone, and approximately 2.5 million were left homeless.

They weren't left hopeless, however, despite enduring years of civil war capped off by the horrors the tsunami brought to the country's shores. Goonewardene is as overwhelmed by the care and giving that continues to this day as he is by the devastation he witnessed first hand.

He is still amazed and touched at the amount of money donated for victims of the tsunami and by the fact that people he knows, or has met still, want to donate.

"Everyone still wants to know where they should donate money where it will do the most good. They don't care about which charity the money goes to," said Goonewardene, who was born in Colombo, the capital of Sri Lanka, but has lived in Canada since 1972. "The response was overwhelming." ■

Charity begins at home

Dr. Suresh Narine is helping to improve conditions in his homeland

By Lee Craig

The president of Guyana had a mission this year for a professor from the University of Alberta – to use his knowledge in agriculture and food science to help grow Guyana's crops more efficiently and to help develop a scientific institute that will assist in this goal.

It happened this way: While the world was focused on the horrors of the tsunami in south and southeast Asia last year, Guyana was struck by a natural disaster as well. Flooding from torrential rains affected about 200,000 of the country's 765,000 citizens.

The Guyanese community in Edmonton raised money to help those affected by the flooding, and Narine, who teaches and conducts research in the Department of Agriculture, Food, and Nutritional Science, and who lived in Guyana until he was 19, was entrusted with distributing medicines, food, and sanitation items door to door. During his efforts he met the president of the country, Bharrat Jagdeo, whom he had known when he was younger and living in Guyana.

"Guyana needs scientific help with its agriculture development. It has a large land mass with a small population, as Canada has," said Narine, who specializes in the physical, chemical, and bio-chemical properties of food products. "Guyana has a large agricultural potential, which historically hasn't been exploited."

The problems Guyana faces are generally the problems of other developing countries, Narine said: they see their scientists, academics, and technicians leave permanently for other countries – the "brain drain" – of which Narine says he himself is an example. As well, there are infrastructure problems, and the country has not been able to develop its industries.

So on the president's request, and on his own personal time, Narine put together a team to assess ways to develop Guyana's dairy and beef sector. A team made up of experts from Alberta Agriculture, Food, and Rural Development, the U of A, and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency went to Guyana with Narine last April and made recommendations.

Narine then spent part of his summer vacation working to get Guyana's National Institute of Applied Science and Technology back up and running. The institute had deteriorated in recent years. The trip also allowed him to spend a month conducting bio-diesel research for his projects at the U of A.

Setting strategies, writing grant applications, and hiring were some of the jobs that Narine, a father of three, took on during the summer for the institute, which is slated to officially open again this month. He sees his role, from Canada, as being an unofficial scientific advisor who will travel to Guyana occasionally.

"It's good work for me to do because I can fit it into my spare time," said Narine.

"Working for the institute will be an interesting challenge, to convince people to spend money on science and technology in a poor country that has so many other immediate needs," he added.

"It's been a real positive experience, because while there has been a particular problem with brain drain, for some of us as we approach 40, we are thinking we need to do something about it."

The institute wants to build an incubation centre as part of its focus on value-added agriculture. Many scientists from both Alberta Agriculture and the U of A's Agriculture, Food, and Nutritional Science Department have gone or will be going on seminars or research projects to Guyana. As well, some of the department's students have volunteered to work in Guyana for a year to work on food studies research projects. ■

"Working for the institute

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needs."

— Dr. Suresh Narine



An aerial photograph (top) shows the Sri Lankan coastline. Debris was strewn across the coastline in the aftermath of the 2004 tsunami.

A river runs through it

Yangtze River project is restoring the environment and economy

By Lee Craig

Dr. Larry Wang was in China's rugged Yunnan Province at the beginning of December to celebrate the successes of the first five years of a program to restore the health of the Yangtze River.

"Thousands of farmers have been benefited by the two projects we have completed," said Wang, a professor emeritus of biological sciences at the University of Alberta. "The farmers have successfully switched from a corn-based economy to a tree-based economy, resulting in enhanced soil protection, water quality, and significant family income."

The reforestation projects are the work of the Ecological Conservancy Outreach (ECO) Fund, which was launched at the U of A in October, 2000. The ECO Fund grew out of discussions between Wang and Sam Chao, an American electrical engineer who grew up with Wang near the Yangtze River and wanted to do something to reverse the environmental degradation the river and landscape had suffered.

"Sam has been a childhood friend of mine for over 50 years," said Wang. "When Sam wanted to do what he did, I was very touched and vowed to help him realize his dreams the best I could."

Chao was prepared to put \$1 million (US) into restoration efforts, but didn't want to simply turn his money over to some large development fund. He wanted to know what his money was doing and to have confidence that it was being used wisely. He hoped that Wang, with his academic background and connections, could help.

Wang assured his friend that the U of A had the necessary expertise in soil conservation, forestry management, and rural economic development to put his vision into action, and he soon secured the full support of a dozen or more of his colleagues from across campus.

The main culprit in the deteriorating water quality of the Yangtze River is the intense cultivation that has taken place on the steep slopes that border the river and its tributaries. Where there were once vast forests that could absorb huge quantities of monsoon rain, there are

now terraced fields from which rainwater flows into the river, washing huge amounts of topsoil from the slopes and into the river.

By helping the farmers in the areas to grow tree crops, the ECO Fund hopes to improve not only the soil conditions along the river valleys, but also the livelihood of the local farmers.

The two projects that have been completed in the first five years are both located in the Qinhai Highlands of the Yunnan Province, close to the Yangtze River's source. Wang said the planting of 667 hectares of new forests plus 2,700 hectares of mountain closure will allow natural and accelerated recovery of eroded forests on the slopes of the upper Yangtze River.

By teaming up with their counterparts from the Chinese Academy of Forestry, the Yunnan Academy of Forestry and the South West College of Forestry, the team chose the use of tree species that will grow fast and steady to provide farm income quickly while exerting environmental benefit at the same time.

"During our visit to Heqing and Shuifu, the county governments introduced local farmers to make presenta-



A Chinese farmer shows off hard-working silkworms feeding off plants used in reforestation along the banks of the Yangtze River. Dr. Larry Wang (inset) shows off silk, the byproduct of an international project that is helping to heal the river and increase income for farmers.

tions on how their lives have been changed for the better because of the ECO Fund projects," said Wang.

"The support for this project runs from China's highest politicians all the way down to the grassroots. The involvement of the whole community at both Heqing County and Shuifu County was a strong testament that a properly planned and executed community-based, sustainable forestry development can quickly change the way of life, even in the remotest areas of China, with strong ecological, social, and economic benefits." ■

Invasive procedures

Dr. Marc Moreau spearheads a medical team that teaches and performs surgeries in Ecuador

By Lee Craig

Pediatric orthopedic surgeon Dr. Marc Moreau has been happy over the last five years to share his knowledge with trauma doctors in Ecuador, a knowledge that is tremendously needed and appreciated.

Moreau is part of a group of doctors who formed the non-profit Canadian Association of Medical Teams Abroad. The group performs about 100 surgeries each visit and helps train medical students at the University of San Francisco in Quito, Ecuador.

"We are trying to set up a model to bring people from North America to developing countries in programs where they can feel safe and help out. The Third World wants to be taught – they don't want to be charity cases," said Moreau, who is assistant dean of admissions for the University of Alberta's Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry.

"And we are keen on giving them the fishing pole instead of just the fish. We are trying to get the teaching underway, so they can do these things on their own."

The importance of what the group does, how the work helps people, can't be emphasized enough, said Moreau.

"Part of it is an innate desire to be able to give the basics to people. Around the world, one in every 1,000 kids is born with a club foot – that doesn't change no matter where you go. So a kid born in Edmonton with a club foot – we can take care of him in a very short time, and he lives a normal life and kicks soccer balls around. But if you're born in Ecuador with a club foot? It doesn't make sense that they can't be looked after."

Ecuador is a country of approximately 13 million people. Heavily reliant on petroleum exports, Ecuador suffered a severe economic crisis in the late 1990s. The number of people living in poverty grew significantly. Although the economy in Ecuador has stabilized since then, many people still need greater access to medical care, and approximately 45 per cent of the population is poor.

The time, effort, and goods for the medical trips are all donated. Funds for the annual excursions, each estimated to cost \$150,000, have been donated by individuals, businesses, and service clubs.



A Canadian medical team gets to work in Ecuador. Organized by Dr. Marc Moreau, the annual teaching and treatment excursion provides education and expertise.

Moreau said the program will be expanded next year with a new workshop on orthopedic trauma in Quito in June. He and the Ecuadorian Orthopedic Society hope to share the Edmonton team's knowledge with 60 - 70 trauma doctors from Ecuador, more than Moreau and his colleagues reached with their smaller teaching sessions. To hold the three-day workshop, they will need about six to eight orthopedic surgeons from the U of A or anywhere in Canada to donate their time to this symposium.

Moreau, who has worked at the University of Alberta Hospital and the Glenrose Rehabilitation Hospital for 25 years, says it is important for people in countries with greater resources to contribute to those with less.

"People want to help when they realize the huge, huge need they have in developing countries for expertise, and

how the doctors and other staff are so appreciative of somebody coming there and confirming what they know, or showing a new technique."

Moreau says it will take about a week of a surgeon's time to attend the symposium: travel time, rest, and the three-day workshop.

Medical care such as pediatric surgery is often something most people can't afford and desperately need, Moreau adds.

"The middle class has become poor, so the guy who had a house and a car now can't buy anything but electricity for his home and food for his family, and then he gets a kid with a club foot – they just fall by the wayside...then when you take the poor people, they are even worse off. They don't have socialized medicine there." ■

Augustana students raise awareness of Africa’s AIDS crisis

Stephen Lewis to speak during International Week

By Zanne Cameron

What do an organic farmer from Alberta and an aspiring nurse from Uganda have in common? They have the University of Alberta, and a cause.

Both are members of the Augustana Against AIDS (AAA) Student Society, a small group of students with big goals at the U of A’s Augustana Faculty campus in Camrose. Their hope is to raise awareness about AIDS in Africa by creating a long-term twinning project between the campus and an orphanage in Africa, and they also want to raise \$50,000 for the Stephen Lewis Foundation this year.

“If we set the bar low we can only rise to mediocrity,” said Bruce Phillips, a fourth-year student and AAA president.

AAA was formed in 2004/05 by a handful of students who were moved by a video of Lewis and the AIDs pandemic in Africa. Lewis, who heads a foundation that raises awareness for the cause, is the United Nations Secretary-General’s Special Envoy for HIV/AIDS in Africa. He speaks Jan. 30 at the Myer Horowitz Theatre at 12 noon, and at 6:30 p.m. at Augustana.

“We just felt we had to do something,” Phillips said. The students began raising awareness and funds last year. One of their most successful ventures was the Augustana Against AIDS Hockey for Life tournament, which pitted the Augustana Vikings team against the Viking, Alberta junior team in a weekend tournament over the 2004 Christmas break. The tournament was the brainchild of AAA alumnus Brian Rozmahel, an organic



Bruce Phillips, a fourth-year student and AAA president, with Ugandan native Catherine Rubanga, are helping raise awareness of the AIDS epidemic in Africa.

farmer from Viking who graduated from Augustana last year with a BA in development studies. The sold-out match raised almost \$5,000 for the Stephen Lewis Foundation.

The students were pumped about the success of the event - both in dollars raised, and in awareness for the cause among students and the surrounding rural community. As an offshoot, and with Rozmahel’s help, Viking has since twinned its school with one in Africa to help assist children orphaned by the ravages of the AIDS pandemic. The group, inspired further by its contact with the Stephen Lewis Foundation,

was able to convince Lewis himself to visit Augustana campus next month.

Lewis will also give an opening address on human rights at 12 noon on Jan. 30 in the Horowitz Theatre, as part of the U of A’s International Week activities. He delivers a keynote address on AIDS at the Augustana gymnasium at 6:30 p.m.

The AAA group wants the speech to be the beginning, not the end, of campus activities for the AIDs cause. “Our real goal is to make a connection with an orphanage that the students here can raise funds for and provide support to over time,” Phillips said. When Ugandan native Catherine

Rubanga came to Augustana, little did she know that in a small city on the snow-bound prairies of Alberta, she would find a way to help Africa. “AAA focuses on children and orphans,” Rubanga noted. “For this cause I am totally there.”

In a first-world political climate that often cautions against giving aid to what many call a hopeless cause, Rubanga would argue for the success of Uganda.

“My country is one of Africa’s success stories. They have, in my lifetime, reduced the percentage of people with AIDS from over 20 per cent to six per cent. They did this with help, a lot of help. I know that I can make a difference.”

To be making a difference from so far away from home is significant to Rubanga, who feels that she can connect to the campus community in a way that others may not be able to. “I can help people be aware that AIDS is not that far away and that Africa is not another planet.”

The AAA group has sold more than 500 tickets to the January event. A sell-out crowd will move them \$10,000 towards AAA’s goal. Members are also making scarves, jewelry and other goods to sell. This year ‘Hockey for Life’ has expanded to the ‘Sport for Life’ campaign as Augustana’s sports teams all added their support to the cause.

The students are also raising funds the old-fashioned way, giving presentations to Camrose service clubs, church groups and businesses. A donor recently offered \$750 to AAA, if they can match the funds. ■

China: the road to the future

University’s ties to China are strong

By Geoff McMaster

The West has only begun to grapple with China’s phenomenal economic growth. *Newsweek’s* international editor, Fareed Zakaria, calls the rise of China the third great power shift of the last 400 years, after the emergence of Europe in the 17th century and the United States in the 19th and 20th centuries.

This enormous sea change is now common knowledge. The *Globe and Mail* has devoted whole editions to China, last October posing the question in a banner headline, “Are We Missing the Boat?”

Twenty five years ago, however, it was far from obvious China would become such a major force to be reckoned with. Rae McDonald, director of international relations for University of Alberta International, credits former Alberta premier Peter Lougheed with seeing the potential for relationships in Asia in the early 1980s. Those relationships inevitably drew on the expertise of university researchers.

“Under Peter Lougheed, there was a real decision made in terms of international policy that the province’s economic future lay not in Europe but, in Asia,” said McDonald. “He also said you won’t get activity unless you have people willing to make real connections” on a personal level.

Lougheed’s government believed in “twinning relationships” between the province and sub-regions in other countries, providing the funds to bring people together.

Brian Evans, who taught Chinese history at the U of A for 35 years, served as a cultural co-ordinator with the Canadian embassy in China during the early 1970s and as the university’s first associate vice president for international affairs, says the provincial government of the day was visionary.

“We were the envy of every province in the country,” Evans said, citing a foreign

development fund the Alberta government had established.

Along with sister-province agreements with Japan and Korea, Alberta has had a formal tie with the Heilongjiang province of China since 1981, and a co-operation agreement that focuses on mutual areas of interest including agriculture, energy, forestry, science and technology, medicine, education, sports, and environmental protection.

The U of A itself has been reaching out to China on its own at least since the early 1970s, when China’s economy was struggling. The faculties of education and agriculture have long been involved in helping the country with some of its most urgent development needs.

That legacy is today most apparent in projects in education, such as the Hebei Publications Project, which has produced one of 10 English textbooks approved for use across China, and in a partnership with the Ministry of Education to improve the quality of teaching in Western China.

In agriculture, an agreement between the Faculty of Agriculture, Forestry, and Home Economics and four Chinese universities allows Chinese students to complete the final two years of their degrees here. Another project co-founded by Drs. Sam Chao, Carter Tseng and Larry Wang, has helped stop erosion along the upper Yangtze River in Yunnan Province.

China’s rapid economic growth has also ushered in a wave of profound social change, especially in the last decade. Despite the communist government’s notorious resistance to outside political influence, it nonetheless take a pragmatic approach to adopting ideas that will strengthen its economy, says Lihong Yang, international relations officer for University of Alberta International.

“The whole structure in Chinese institutions we are working with seems to be

“We found very receptive minds and exchanged about 200 people over the 20 years of the project. The Chinese had such a huge need to tap into our expertise. They were very keen, worked very hard, and had very good academics who picked up the ball and ran with it”

— Dr. Rolf Mirus

accommodating to the perspectives of the West,” said Yang. “Yes, they do have the party secretaries (in schools) and a different kind of governance system, but when they do decide to open up, they have seen the benefit of having people open up their world view, or sending people overseas to bring back that experience.” The U of A now has about 1,500 alumni in China.

Thanks to a deal struck by former president Rod Fraser, the U of A’s School of Business has been training candidates for China’s top administrative positions in government and universities through its National School of Administration of China. That arrangement brings in 35 - 40 trainees per year, competing with the top schools in the U.S., Australia and Europe, says Yang.

But the business school’s relationship to China goes back at least 20 years, says Dr. Rolf Mirus, a business professor and associate vice-president (international). Back in 1983, with money from the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), the school joined a twinning of eight Canadian business schools with eight universities in China that had a potential to develop their own programs. The U of A was twinned with Xi’an Jiaotong University, now regarded as having the strongest business research program in the country.

“We found very receptive minds and exchanged about 200 people over the 20 years of the project,” said Mirus, who was involved with the project for about 18 of those years. “The Chinese had such a huge need to tap into our expertise. They were

very keen, worked very hard, and had very good academics who picked up the ball and ran with it.”

McDonald says the potential to further expand our relations with China is enormous. The recently established China Institute – seeded with a \$37 million donation in Chinese art and textiles by Sandy McTaggart and matched by the provincial government – will likely drive those relations.

The China Institute “will provide a framework, a kind of umbrella to capture what we do, and make sure we have a vision for what we’re doing in China,” said McDonald. The institute will also create a new Centre for Chinese Studies, to foster a better understanding of a complex culture.

The latest hot new collaboration is one between U of A scientists and “state key labs” in China, which employ the country’s best researchers and grad students, says McDonald. A new agreement will soon link the U of A with five labs in energy, the environment, nanotechnology, materials engineering, and rural and renewable resources.

And with the Olympic Games approaching, there are also opportunities to collaborate in sports education and management. In fact, the top Olympics researcher in China is a U of A alumnus, says Yang.

“It’s exciting to work with China now because you can do so much,” said McDonald. “And if you’re trying to do the right things, and you try to hit all the right notes, you really can move quickly.” ■



Nikhail Raghuram, Sooaee Yoon, Steffi Roszkopf and Darren Horney seem unlikely room mates, but International House has brought them together under one roof.

There's no place like home

But International House is a pretty good substitute

by Tyson Kaban

The first day of university life can be overwhelming. Most students consider simply attending the university an exercise in independence.

But for the 154 undergraduate and graduate students who live in International House, their first day on campus was likely one of their first days in Edmonton, Alberta or even Canada. In addition to the pressure of academia, many residents of International House also deal with learning a new language, becoming familiar with different social norms and adjusting to a new climate.

The residence, one of about 15 such student residences in North America, houses students from more than 30 countries. Opened just over a year ago, International House has established itself as one of the university's most visible efforts in its campaign to internationalize the campus.

Those who choose to live in the residence choose to have a truly international experience. Most residents agree that attending university and making the choice to live with their international peers required some social and cultural adjustments. Living in such a diverse residence means these students are going to be exposed to new faces and new cultures, experiencing a sort of culture shock within a culture shock.

"When I first came to live here, I was very impressed because, in my country, I've never even seen people from Egypt or the Middle East. They're not common in my country," said Sooaee Yoon, a first-year Arts student from Seoul, South Korea. "At first I was really shy to talk with them and I didn't know how to talk with them because I thought they would be much different from me. But living in the same place and getting to know them, I quickly found out that we're all the same."

It's a sentiment Nikhail Raghuram agrees with. The third-year biochemistry major has been on campus for just over two years. He's also lived in the Lister Centre student residence and has noticed a difference living at International House.

"In Lister, there's obviously more Canadians, but the whole community there is less inclusive than living here at International House," he said. "I think that here, we get together more and get along so well because everyone's different. We're all in the same boat, so even though we might all come from different places, no one feels left out."

As one of the numerous Canadian students residing at International House, Darren Horney is a member of the International House committee that organizes pot-luck dinners, social gatherings,

and brings in speakers from around the world. Even as a Canadian being exposed to so many different cultures on a daily basis, Horney believes the concept of International House has succeeded in creating a constant, open dialogue about international relations between his fellow housemates.

"Under these circumstances you don't have a large group identity to fall back on. Everyone's just an individual," said Horney, a fourth-year biochemistry major from Grande Prairie, AB. "Maybe immediately we don't relate in cultural norms, but you find a common humanity with each other that will transcend everything."

While it's too soon for most of the students to recognize exactly how much they've changed as a result of living at International House, they agree that living in such a diverse setting has both immediate and lasting benefits.

"I'm happy that I don't have share a room with my little sister anymore, and that I get my own fridge," said first-year Arts student Steffi Roszkopf, from Germany. "At the moment I can't say that living at International House has changed me, but I'm positive that I'll notice it once I go back home." ■

It takes a village

U of A International connects students and scholars with a global community

By Caitlin Crawshaw

It has often been said there's a difference between "book learning" and life experience, but for University of Alberta International (UAI), both types of knowledge are critical to the post-secondary experience.

Under the leadership of the vice-provost and associate vice-president (international), UAI strives to connect the U of A's faculty, students and administrative professionals with their counterparts across the world, and to create research and learning environments which are informed by global ideas and issues.

This includes supporting an international education for U of A students who wish to travel and learn abroad, and for international students who choose to make the U of A home. The UAI's bustling International Centre, for instance, is renowned for its delivery of services to both international and domestic students, and for its programs which explore global issues.

UAI also supports U of A administrative professionals and faculty members pursuing international activities abroad. The Global Education Program (GEP) provides extra-curricular educational opportunities for faculty, staff, students and the community to explore issues of a global nature. The cornerstone of the program is International Week, an annual event featuring lectures, panel discussions and presentations by thinkers and performers from around the world, and by U of A researchers exploring global themes. Held each year in January, the event draws interest from both the U of A campus community and the broader community alike.

The GEP also brings worlds together through International House, the U of A's first international residence. Opened in 2004, the residence is a member of a worldwide league of International Houses, offering undergraduate and graduate students the chance to share a home with students from all four corners of the globe.

For domestic students interested in

challenging their world view in another culture, UAI supports the Education Abroad Program, which co-ordinates different international learning opportunities for students at the U of A. In fact, the U of A has partnerships with more than 100 post-secondary institutions in 34 countries, allowing U of A students to study abroad while paying U of A tuition fees. Conversely, UAI is also actively involved in recruiting international students to the U of A.

Globally minded U of A departments and faculties are assisted by the UAI's international relations department, which provides advice and regional expertise on international collaboration. Moreover, the UAI also brings the expertise of academics and administrators to the leaders of developing countries and those in transition. The UAI's international projects unit, for instance, helps implement teaching, research and development projects with international funding institutions like the World Bank and the Canadian International Development Agency. ■

More than just words

International week informs and entertains

By Caitlin Crawshaw

While economically privileged populations settle into life as usual after weeks of holiday indulgences, much of the world continues the struggle for basic needs.

An upcoming event on the University of Alberta campus hopes to remind the community that the lives of many in the world aren't defined by economic prosperity and human rights protections as in the West.

"International Week is a vital opportunity for both the campus and local communities to explore deep, pertinent issues that may not come up in everyday activities," explained International Week publicist Zoe Todd.

"Hearing first-hand experiences of experts in the field discussing our own solutions to human rights, poverty, environment or global security issues, and sharing common visions of how we want the world to be, is a very empowering experience."

This year's International Week, entitled *More than words: Realizing human rights* will take place Jan. 30-Feb.3 on the U of A campus and will feature over 50 free events. In its 21st year, the event is an opportunity for academics, students, practitioners and the general public to engage each other on human rights issues, said Todd.

"The theme refers to the fact that we have many legislated and international declarations, conventions and other documents in place to protect human rights, but that much needs to be done to make human rights protection a reality for many people around the world, including here in Alberta," she said.

"We want to raise awareness of these issues and encourage people to become involved and engaged in working towards making protection of human rights a reality."

This year's lineup will kick-off Jan. 27 with a procession of 30 hand-made lanterns representing each article of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The lanterns will be carried throughout campus, with the procession ending at the Students' Union Building at noon. The opening ceremonies that follow will include Capoeira performers, Bollywood Comes Alive, a sweatshop-free fashion show, hip-hop dancers and a Fair Trade Fair.

One of the event's highlights, said Todd, will be a talk by Stephen Lewis, Canada's former ambassador to the UN, currently the UN's special envoy on HIV/AIDS in Africa. His keynote address, entitled "Human rights gone wrong: a pattern of world indifference," will take place at the Myer Horowitz Theatre at 12 noon, Jan. 30.

Other talks will cover a broad range of topics, including the trafficking of women and prostitution, corporate social responsibility, Canada's role in the Sudan, and Edmonton as a human rights city, said Todd.

International Week will also feature a number of forums, including one on Resource Extractive Industries and Human Rights, on Jan. 31. The forum will include a series of panels examining diamonds, oil and corporate social responsibility both locally and internationally, particularly in relationship to conflict.

The week will conclude with a concert entitled, "Igniting the Human Spirit," featuring Edmonton's aboriginal, a cappella trio Asani, Caribbean-Latin-Afro-funk band Radiovacana, local ballroom dancers Dominic Lacroix and Delphine Romaine, and others.

For more information on International Week, check out www.international.ualberta.ca/iweek. ■

Species co-exist with unspoken rules

Research tackles big questions

By Phoebe Dey

Unspoken rules of existence in tropical rain forests mean no one species will take up too much space and squeeze others out, according to new research conducted in part at the University of Alberta.

Dr. Fangliang He, a Canada Research Chair in the U of A's Department of Renewable Resources, contributed to the research, which shows how ecological communities regulate themselves and is published in the current issue of *Nature*.

He is part of a research team that studied fundamental questions which have plagued scientists since Darwin's time: why are some species so common while others are rare? How do common and rare species interact? And how do hundreds, even thousands, of tree species coexist in a limited space in the tropics?

He, along with Igor Volkov and Jayanth Banavar of Pennsylvania State University, Stephen Hubbell of the University of Georgia and Amos Maritan of the Universita di Padova in Italy, offer a new theory to explain why tropical rain forests are so species-rich and how species are assembled in a community.

Species must meet certain conditions to live in a community. Understanding the rules that make up community assemblages is one of the most challenging questions facing scientists today. Niche theory, which assumes species differ from one another in various aspects, has been traditionally used to explain community assemblages. However, this theory offers little to predict community assemblage patterns - the way species share a limited space.

His work attempts to address community assembly rules based on Hubbell's recently developed neutral theory. "The basic idea of the neutral theory is that community membership is determined by five fundamental processes: birth, death, immigration, speciation and random drift. Furthermore, the theory assumes that every individual in the community, regardless of species identity, has the same rates of birth, death, immigration and mutating into a new species," said He.

The research team modified this theory by arguing that the birth rate and mortality rate are not identical across species, but there is a "density-dependent" probability of birth and death. The more abundant species have lower birth rates and higher mortality rates. "The consequence is that when a species becomes rare, its birth rate will increase and death rate will reduce," said He. In other words, species will regulate themselves to make room for each other if they follow the membership rules. "If not, they're out."

The scientists tested their model using data from six tropical rainforests. These tiny areas can accommodate more than 1,000 tree species across the world. "Our theory offers a better understanding of why tropical rainforests are so species-rich," said He. "This rare species advantage regulates dynamics and therefore permits the coexistence of many species in a community."

This work was supported by NASA, by the National Science Foundation and the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada. The fieldwork has also received long-term support from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, the Mellon Foundation, Earthwatch, Frank Levinson and the Celera Foundation, and other private foundations and individual donors. ■

Prize winner explores Japanese literature

Research sheds light on important cultural writings

By Bev Betkowski

A University of Alberta graduate has translated her love of languages into a national research prize.

Valerie Henitiuk, who convoked last spring with her PhD in comparative literature, was on campus in early December for a congratulatory reception after earning the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada's Postdoctoral Prize for 2005.

She is currently a visiting scholar at the Center for Comparative Literature and Society at New York's Columbia University.

She explained how her education here has played an important role in what she has accomplished. "The University of Alberta has been a central part of my training as an academic."

Henitiuk's study of the spread of Japanese culture across the world has earned her recognition as the year's most outstanding recipient of the award and a \$10,000 prize which she will use to travel to Paris this spring. The trip, she says, will give her the opportunity to consult rare journals and other materials documenting the French response to Japanese literature in the late 19th century and the first few years of the 20th century.

Her current research project explores the circulation of two works written by women serving rival empresses at the Japanese court in the late 10th and early 11th century: the *Genji Monogatari* by Murasaki Shikibu and the *Makura Sôshi* by Sei Shônagon.

"The first of these, known in English as *The Tale of Genji*, is widely considered the most important work of all Japanese literature and was until quite recently the only text from that country with which literate westerners could claim any degree of familiarity," she said.

"The latter work is commonly known in English as *The Pillow Book*, and at the turn of the 21st century it appears to be overtaking *Genji* as the single most important source of inspiration from the Japanese literary tradition for western writers and filmmakers."

Henitiuk has a deep interest in exploring different world translations of Japanese texts, which include English, German and Spanish versions. It seems perfectly natural, considering that before returning to the U of A, she'd previously earned a masters degree in French literacy translation, and had worked for several years as a translator for the Alberta government. Henitiuk also worked in Japan for a year, serving as



An illustration of the *Genji Monogatari*, at the University of Michigan Museum of Art, forms one of the most intriguing pieces in Japanese literature. Valerie Henitiuk (inset), who earned her PhD in comparative literature at the U of A, was awarded the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada's Postdoctoral Prize for 2005. She is presently a visiting scholar at the Center for Comparative Literature and Society at New York's Columbia University.



co-ordinator for international relations for the Nanao Municipal Government.

Upon graduation last spring, she was awarded the U of A Governor General's Medal for having the best dissertation across all disciplines, exploring heroines in literature from such diverse traditions as Heian Japanese, medieval French, 18th-century English, and 20th-century American.

Henitiuk is enraptured by the Japanese literature she is studying, and feels strongly about the significance of translating such work so the rest of the world can benefit

from its truth and grace.

"These are exciting works, many of them about relationships. They talk about it with immense beauty and power."


Japanese literature was unknown to the rest of the world until Europeans arrived at the country's borders in the mid-1850s. But lately, all things Japanese have become a part of North American pop culture, materializing in everything from comic books to rock bands. Henitiuk believes this phenomenon is likely connected to the recent translation of works like *The Pillow Book* and *Genji*. ■

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talks & events

Submit talks and events to Lorraine Neumayer by 12 p.m. Thursday one week prior to publication. **Folio Talks and Events listings do not accept submissions via fax, mail, e-mail or phone. Please enter events you'd like to appear in Folio and on ExpressNews at: <http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/events/submit.cfm>.** A more comprehensive list of events is available online at www.events.ualberta.ca.

UNTIL MAR 16 2006

Conserving Biodiversity in Northern Cities
Leading researchers from around the globe will be speaking about conservation issues within northern cities. The series is free of charge and open to the public. Registration is not required. Thursdays, 4:30 p.m. Engineering Teaching Learning Complex Room 1 007. <http://www.ualberta.ca/ERSC/es.htm>.

JAN 6 2006

Visiting Speaker Gregory E. Hannigan, PhD
Scientist Cancer Research Program Research Institute, Hospital for Sick Children
Title of Talk: "Regulation of cell growth and transformation by Integrin Linked Kinase." Presented by the Department of Cell Biology. 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. 5-10 Medical Sciences Building. <http://www.ualberta.ca/cellbiology>.

University Teaching Services (UTS) Preparing for Successful Lectures - When planning a lecture, we often spend most of our time preparing the content; as a result, lectures from knowledgeable people are not always successful. This session presents approaches to make presentations effective and efficient, in terms of our time and the time of the students, by using approaches to preparation that make us ready to teach rather than just to inform. Presenter: David Cook, Studies in Medical Education Please note registration is required. 1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. CAB 243. <http://www.ualberta.ca/~uts>.

Pandas Basketball Pandas vs. Winnipeg 6:30 p.m. Main Gym Van Vliet Physical Education and Recreation Centre. www.cubsclub.ualberta.ca

Bears basketball Bears vs. Winnipeg 8:15 p.m. Main Gym Van Vliet Physical Education and Recreation Centre. www.cubsclub.ualberta.ca

JAN 7 2006

4.0 Resumes for Students in Education Both novice and experienced resume writers will benefit from attending this workshop. The focus is on learning a new conceptual framework developed at CaPS, which can be used to develop a new resume or revise an existing resume. Results from a survey about employers' expectations and preferences regarding resumes are also presented. Pre-register at CaPS 2-100 SUB 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. 4-02 SUB. <http://www.ualberta.ca/caps>.

Assembling Your School Board Application Package Learn how to write an effective resume and cover letter for teaching positions. In this workshop you will create a draft resume and cover letter or you can bring one you've already done to work on. Other components of your teaching application package, such as references and the autobiographical statement, will also be discussed. Pre-register at CaPS, 2-100 SUB. 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. 4-02 SUB. <http://www.ualberta.ca/caps>.

Pandas Basketball Pandas vs. Winnipeg 6:30 p.m. Main Gym Van Vliet Physical Education and Recreation Centre. www.cubsclub.ualberta.ca

Bears Basketball Bears vs. Winnipeg 8:15 p.m. Main Gym Van Vliet Physical Education and Recreation Centre. www.cubsclub.ualberta.ca

JAN 9 2006

Seminar Dr. Michael Sutton, Division of Biology at California Institute of Technology will present a seminar entitled "Local protein synthesis in neuronal dendrites and the control of synaptic function." Dr. Sutton is a recruit for the position of Assistant/Associate Professor in Neurobiology in the Department of Biological Sciences. 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. ETLC 1-017.

Visiting Artist Recital Visiting Artist Recital Mayron Tsong, piano. Menuet sur la nom d'Haydn: Ravel. Sonata in D Major, Hob.XVI:24: Haydn. Sarcasms, Op.17: Prokofiev. Suggestions diabolique: Prokofiev. Preludes from Op. 11: Scriabin. Etudes Prokeaux: Rachmaninov. 8:00 p.m. Arts Building/ Convocation Hall.

JAN 10 2006

Piano Masterclass Piano Masterclass Visiting Artist Mayron Tsong. 3:30 p.m. Arts Building/ Convocation Hall.

JAN 11 2006

PHS Grand Rounds Dr. Cam Wild, Associate Professor, Centre for Health Promotion Studies and Department of Public Health Sciences: "Reduce My Risk: A Smoking Cessation Program for Hospital Patients." 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. Room 2-117, Clinical Sciences Building. <http://www.phs.ualberta.ca>.

Building a Teaching Portfolio Learn about what goes in a teaching portfolio and how to assemble

an effective portfolio, as well as how to present your portfolio in a school board interview. Pre-register at CaPS 2-100 SUB 4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. 4-02 SUB. <http://www.ualberta.ca/caps>.

JAN 12 2006

Health Law Institute Seminar Series "Universal Biobanking: The Collaborative Research Enterprise." Jasper Bovenberg, Attorney-at-law and Researcher in Health Law, Academic Medical Centre, University of Amsterdam. Public Lecture 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. Room 237 Law Centre. <http://www.law.ualberta.ca/centres/hli>.

Moving to the head of the class: Looking for teaching positions Learn how to effectively prepare yourself for the work search process, about strategies for finding teaching positions with school boards and about teacher certification. Free drop-in seminar. 2-100 SUB. 12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. <http://www.ualberta.ca/caps>.

Seminar Dr. Barbara Whitlock, Dept. of Biology, University of Miami at Coral Gables, will present a seminar entitled "Systemics, biogeography and the evolution of whole-plant developmental morphology in fringed gentians (Gentianopsis, Gentianaceae)." Dr. Whitlock is a candidate for the position of Assistant/Associate Professor in Plant Evolution and Systematics. 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. TBW1.

Acing the Interview for Students in Education The focus of this workshop is on how to prepare effectively for a job interview and how to respond to interview questions. Results from our employer survey about their practices and expectations regarding the interview process are included in this workshop. Pre-register at CaPS 2-100 SUB 5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. 4-02 SUB. <http://www.ualberta.ca/caps>.

JAN 13 2006

Wrestling U of A Invitational Butterdome (Universiade Pavillion). www.cubsclub.ualberta.ca

Contempo Contempo, featuring New Music by student composers (MUSIC 460). 12:00 p.m. Studio 27 Fine Arts Building.

Making career fairs and career forums work for you! Want to get the most out of the time you spend at a career fair or a career forum? Learn valuable tips on how to prepare for and present yourself at these valuable networking events. Free Drop-in seminar 2-100 SUB 12:05 p.m. - 12:50 p.m. <http://www.ualberta.ca/caps>.

Pandas Volleyball Pandas vs. Calgary 6:30 p.m. Main Gym Van Vliet Physical Education and Recreation Centre. www.cubsclub.ualberta.ca

Bears Hockey Bears vs. Manitoba 7:30 p.m. Clare Drake Arena Van Vliet Physical Education and Recreation Centre. www.cubsclub.ualberta.ca

Master of Music Recital Master of Music Recital Mark Nerenberg, composition 8:00 p.m. Arts Building/Convocation Hall.

Bears Volleyball Bears vs. Calgary 8:15 p.m. Main Gym Van Vliet Physical Education and Recreation Centre. www.cubsclub.ualberta.ca

JAN 14 2006

Wrestling Golden Bear Open Butterdome (Universiade Pavillion). www.cubsclub.ualberta.ca

4.0 Resumes for Students in Education Both novice and experienced resume writers will benefit from attending this workshop. The focus is on learning a new conceptual framework developed at CaPS, which can be used to develop a new resume or revise an existing resume. Results from a survey about employers' expectations and preferences regarding resumes are also presented. Pre-register at 2-100 SUB 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. 4-02 SUB. <http://www.ualberta.ca/caps>.

Building a Teaching Portfolio Learn about what goes in a teaching portfolio and how to assemble an effective portfolio, as well as how to present your portfolio in a school board interview. Pre-register at 2-100 SUB 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. 4-02 SUB. <http://www.ualberta.ca/caps>.

Sense-making, Claims-making and Truth - How can we Resolve Conflicting Information Sources in Environment and Health? Dr. Theresa Garvin, Assistant Professor, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences 2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Stanley A. Milner Library (Main Floor, SE Corner), 7 Sir Winston Churchill Square.

Bears Volleyball Bears vs. Calgary 6:30 p.m. Main Gym Van Vliet Physical Education and Recreation Centre. www.cubsclub.ualberta.ca

Pharmacy Alumni Association Bears Den Bears Hockey vs. U of Manitoba 6:30 pm Clare Drake Arena, Bears Den Van Vliet Physical Education and Recreation Centre.

Bears Hockey Bears vs. Manitoba 7:30 p.m. Clare Drake Arena Van Vliet Physical Education and Recreation Centre. www.cubsclub.ualberta.ca

Red Priest England's dynamic early music ensemble, Red Priest, presents A Baroque Fantasy, featuring some of the most extraordinary chamber music of the Baroque era, including Vivaldi's Nightmare Concerto, Tartini's Devil's Trill sonata, and Red Priest's own Fantasy on La Follia. 8:00 p.m. Convocation Hall. <http://www.edmontonchamber-music.org>.

Pandas Volleyball Pandas vs. Calgary 8:15 p.m. Main Gym Van Vliet Physical Education and Recreation Centre. www.cubsclub.ualberta.ca

JAN 15 2006

A Birthday Party for Mozart A Birthday Party for Mozart The Davis Concert Organ University of Alberta Madrigal Singers Leonard Ratzlaff, 3:00 p.m. Francis Winspear Centre for Music.

JAN 16 - 27 2006

Win Big @ HUB Mall - January 16 - 27, 2006 'Win Big' is back again at HUB Mall! Open to all full time UofA students, with the opportunity to win one of two \$750 tuition vouchers, campus parking or ETS passes, HUB Mall shopping sprees, a spa package, a Coca-Cola gift pack...and more! Just stop by the HUB Mall Administration office, room 209, to pick up your entry forms (limit of two per person). For more details, call 492-5609. Draw takes place on Friday January 27th, 2006 at 3:00 pm sharp! Good luck!!! HUB Mall Administration office, room 209. <http://www.ualberta.ca/hubmall>

JAN 16 2006

Education Career Fair Geared for Education students who are looking for teaching opportunities, this is a great way to network with employers and research your choices. 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Universiade Pavillion (Butterdome). http://www.ualberta.ca/CAPS/CaPS_a3-1.html

Earn while you learn: Part-time work for students on campus Learn about the many opportunities available to students who want to find employment on the University of Alberta campus. This seminar will of particular interest to international students, who are restricted to working on campus while they are studying Free Drop-in Seminar 2-100 SUB 12:00 p.m. - 12:50 p.m. 2-100 SUB. <http://www.ualberta.ca/caps>

Music at Noon, Convocation Hall Student Recital Series Music at Noon, Convocation Hall Student Recital Series Featuring students from the Department of Music 12:00 p.m. Arts Building/ Convocation Hall.

Seminar Dr. Charles Bell, Dept. of Biology, Xavier University of Louisiana at New Orleans, will present a seminar entitled "Time, biogeography and angiosperms". Dr. Bell is a candidate for the position of Assistant/Associate Professor in Plant Evolution and Systematics. 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. ETLC 1-017.

Student Composers Concert Student Composers Concert Featuring new works for String Quartet 8:00 p.m. Studio 27 Fine Arts Building.

JAN 17 2006

Your life story in 500 words or less: Writing a personal statement Most professional and graduate schools ask you to submit a personal statement either in essay form or in response to multiple questions. Learn how to write a personal statement that introduces you as an interesting and likable person - a candidate worthy of admission into your desired program. Free Drop-in seminar 12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. 2-100 SUB. <http://www.ualberta.ca/caps>

4.0 Resumes for Students in Education Both novice and experienced resume writers will benefit from attending this workshop. The focus is on learning a new conceptual framework developed at CaPS, which can be used to develop a new resume or revise an existing resume. Results from a survey about employers' expectations and preferences regarding resumes are also presented. Pre-register at 2-100 SUB 5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. 4-02 SUB. <http://www.ualberta.ca/caps>

JAN 18 2006

PHS Grand Rounds Guest Speaker: Dr Susan Kennedy, Professor, UBC School of Occupational and Environmental Hygiene and UBC Department of Health Care and Epidemiology "Chronic Airway Disease from Chemical Exposures at Work: Still a Problem for Men, A Growing Problem for Women." 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. Room 2-117, CSB. <http://www.phs.ualberta.ca>

This Will Only Hurt a Bit: What You Need to Know About Opening a Medical or Dental Practice You know how to treat patients and alleviate pain, but do you know how to build a strong practice? Learn how to build a business from the ground up - and get the important information you need on incorporation, taxes, contracts, payroll, and relevant legal matters. Free drop-in seminar 12:05 p.m. - 12:50 p.m. 2-100 SUB. <http://www.ualberta.ca/caps>

Assembling Your School Board Application Package Learn how to write an effective resume and cover letter for teaching positions. In this workshop you will create a draft resume and cover letter or you can bring one you've already done to work on. Other components of your teaching application package, such as references and the autobiographical statement, will also be discussed. Pre-register at 2-100 SUB. 4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. 4-02 SUB. <http://www.ualberta.ca/caps>

JAN 19 2006

Agape Learning Over Lunch: Social Justice Video Series AGAPE - A Sex, Sexual, and Gender Differences in Education and Culture Focus Group in the Faculty of Education, University of Alberta 2005 2006 Learning Over Lunch: Social Justice Video Series (Free Admission) Today's Video Presentation: Colour Blind? This National Film Board of Canada video explores the impact of subtle racism on teenagers in high school. For more information please email Dr. André P. Grace at andre.grace@ualberta.ca or Kris Wells at kwells@ualberta.ca or Contact the Agape Project Office at 492-0772 or visit us @ 5-181K in the Education North Building. 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. 7-102 Education North Education Centre. http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/education//pdfs/agape2005_2.pdf

From Theorizing to Realizing: What You Need to Know about Opening Your Own Business You can cite Machiavelli, Foucault, Einstein, and Hawking in a single conversation, but what do you know about running your own business? Learn how to start a business from the ground up, including important information on incorporation, taxes, contracts, and other tips to help turn your ideas into viable businesses. Free drop-in seminar. 12:35 p.m. - 1:20 p.m. 2-100 SUB. <http://www.ualberta.ca/caps>

Seminar Dr. Jana Vamosi, Dept. of Biological Sciences, University of Calgary, will present a seminar entitled "Causes and consequences of species richness: Phylogenetic approaches in angiosperms." Dr. Vamosi is a candidate for the position of Assistant/Associate Professor in Plant Evolution and Systematics. 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. TBW1.

4.0 Resumes for Students in Engineering Both novice and experienced resume writers will benefit from attending this workshop. The focus is on learning a new conceptual framework developed at CaPS, which can be used to develop a new resume or revise an existing resume. Results from a survey about employers' expectations and preferences regarding resumes are also presented. Pre-register at 2-100 SUB 4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. 4-02 SUB. <http://www.ualberta.ca/caps>

Inside/OUT 2005/2006 Speakers' Series: The Sex Life of Texts Inside/OUT 2005/2006 Speakers? Series Profiling LGBTQ-related work at the University of Alberta. Today's Presentation: "The Sex Life of Texts" Dr. Stephen Guy-Bray, Assistant Professor Department of English, University of British Columbia. Much gay and queer work on literary history has come to a grinding halt over the question, as impossible to settle as it is fun to imagine, over which authors actually had gay sex. For more information, please contact Kristopher Wells at kwells@ualberta.ca or Marjorie Wonham at mwonham@ualberta.ca. 5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. 7-152 Education North Education Centre.

Visual Word Recognition in Deaf ASL Signers: A Comparison of Good vs. Poor Readers Dr. Charlene Chamberlain focuses on how deaf ASL signers recognize English words in print. This lecture focuses on an old question yet to be fully answered. Chamberlain will explain research that suggests that phonological processing, in particular, and word recognition skills, in general, may not fully explain the differences between Deaf good and poor readers. 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Room 2-115 Education North.

JAN 25 2006

Heaven or Heat Death Lecturer: Brother Guy Consolmagno, S.J., astronomer from the Vatican Observatory. 10 a.m. to 12 noon, Education 165. 7 p.m, Education 129. Website & a review from Vancouver of his "Elegance" lecture: <http://clavius.as.arizona.edu/vo/R1024/GConsolmagno.html> <http://www.rasc.ca/nl/vancouver-20030506.pdf>

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FACULTY OF SCIENCE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

ANNOUNCEMENT

FACULTY OF SCIENCE RESEARCH AWARD

We are seeking nominations for the Faculty's most promising young scientists for this annual award, which recognizes outstanding research achievement. Nominees must have obtained their doctorates in 1994 or later.

Deadline: January 16, 2006

For details of eligibility and conditions, please contact:

Dr. Renee Elio, Associate Dean (Research)

E-mail: ree@cs.ualberta.ca, (780) 492-3169

or Crystal Moore

(780) 492-7488, crystal.moore@ualberta.ca

FACULTY OF SCIENCE AWARD FOR EXCELLENT TEACHING

We are seeking nominations from students and departments in the Faculty of Science for this annual award for individuals with outstanding qualities in undergraduate teaching.

Deadline: January 20, 2006

For details of eligibility and conditions, please contact:

Dr. Brenda Leskiw, Associate Dean

E-mail: bleskiw@ualberta.ca, (780) 492-9452

positions

The records arising from this competition will be managed in accordance with provisions of the Alberta Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPPA). The University of Alberta hires on the basis of merit. We are committed to the principle of equity of employment. We welcome diversity and encourage applications from all qualified women and men, including persons with disabilities, members of visible minorities, and Aboriginal persons. With regard to teaching positions: All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadians and permanent residents will be given priority. For complete U of A job listings visit www.hrs.ualberta.ca.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ADVISOR FACULTY OF ARTS, UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT SERVICES

Applications are invited for the position of International Student Advisor in the Undergraduate Student Services of the Faculty of Arts. The successful candidate will provide a single point of contact for international students within Arts who require personal attention and assistance to navigate the regulations and policies of the Faculty specifically, and the university as a whole, by developing and providing specialized support. As the manager of the Faculty of Arts program in Cortona, Italy the successful candidate will be responsible for smooth day to day running of the program and along with the Director of the School in Cortona participate in a variety of activities to encourage program growth and registration.

The Faculty of Arts is one of the largest at the University of Alberta, comprising 16 departments and offering eight degree programs to about 6200 undergraduate students. Currently, approximately 5% of the Faculty's total undergraduate enrollment consists of International Students from over 60 countries. The Faculty plans to increase and maintain this percentage to approximately 10 per cent of the total.

A post-secondary degree is required for this position. The successful candidate will have proven administrative and organizational abilities, superior written and oral communication skills, and be familiar with post-secondary admission policies and student records. S/he will possess exceptional interpersonal skills, cross-cultural sensitivity, and an ability to establish and maintain a good rapport with applicants and students from a variety of cultures and countries. Knowledge of this university's administrative structure, a working knowledge of PeopleSoft Student Administration, or other student information systems is highly desirable. Candidates are also expected to be proficient in the Microsoft Office suite of programs.

This is a full-time continuing Administrative Professional Officer position with a salary range of \$45,629 to \$72,243 per annum. Resumes should be forwarded no later than January 13, 2006 to:

Robin A Cowan, Director
Undergraduate Student Services,
Faculty of Arts

6-7 Humanities Building, University of Alberta,
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T6G 2E5

Phone: 1-780-492-7657 Fax: 1-780-492-6325

Email: robin.cowan@ualberta.ca

We thank all applicants; however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

CLINICAL TRACK TEACHING APPOINTMENTS DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL THERAPY FACULTY OF REHABILITATION MEDICINE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

Applications are invited for several full time clinical track positions in the Department of Physical Therapy at the University of Alberta. Preference will be given to qualified applicants who have an interest in teaching in one or more of the following areas: respiratory, musculoskeletal or neurological physical therapy.

As a department in the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine, Physical Therapy offers

an innovative course based M.Sc.PT program that integrates strong clinical and evidence based practice skills. The department also participates fully in the interdisciplinary M.Sc. and PhD programs in Rehabilitation Science. The Department currently consists of sixteen full time faculty members.

Applicants must be eligible for licensure with the College of Physical Therapists of Alberta and possess a minimum of a master's degree (PhD or equivalent doctoral degree preferred). These positions will support graduate level teaching and therefore indicators of course development and teaching proficiency are required. The initial appointment is at the Assistant Professor level and salary will be commensurate with experience. These teaching appointments may include an affiliation with a clinical facility. For details about the positions or the department contact Dr. R.G. Haennel (Chair) at Bob.Haennel@ualberta.ca or Tel (780) 492-2889. Website: <http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/rehabmed/PhysicalTherapy.cfm>

Applications will be accepted until the positions are filled. The positions are available as soon as suitable candidates are found. Qualified applicants should send their curriculum vitae, a statement of teaching interests and the names of three (3) references to:

Dr. A. Cook, Dean
Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine
3-48 Corbett Hall University of Alberta
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, T6G 2G4
Phone: 780-492-5991 Fax: (780) 492-1626
e-mail: Al.Cook@ualberta.ca

TENURE TRACK FACULTY POSITIONS DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL THERAPY FACULTY OF REHABILITATION MEDICINE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

Applications are invited for two tenure track positions in the Department of Physical Therapy at the University of Alberta. For one position preference will be given to qualified applicants who have an interest in Aging. The second position is open to all areas of research related to physical therapy.

As a department in the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine, Physical Therapy offers an innovative course based M.Sc.PT program that integrates strong clinical and evidence based practice skills. The department also participates fully in the interdisciplinary M.Sc. and Ph.D. programs in Rehabilitation Science. The Department currently consists of sixteen full time faculty members. Within the Faculty there are interdisciplinary research groups focused on common spinal disorders, movement disorders and rehabilitation, child development and aging. Opportunities for research collaboration are also available on campus with the Alberta Centre on Aging, the University Centre for Neuroscience, the Institute of Health Economics, the Alberta Heart Institute, the Alberta Provincial CIHR Training Program in Bone and Joint Health, the Centre for Health Promotion Studies, the Community University Partnership for the Study of Children Youth and Families and the Health Care Quality Outcomes Research Centre. Close working relationships also exist with the Glenrose Rehabilitation Hospital and other community-based physical therapy programs.

Qualified candidates will possess a doctoral degree in health sciences, social sciences or related

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disciplines; have a strong research background and the potential to establish an independent research program. For both positions a background in physical therapy is preferred. Evidence of successful grant applications will be advantageous. Responsibilities will include teaching at the graduate level and maintaining an active research program. For details about the positions or the department contact Dr. R.G. Haennel (Chair) at Bob.Haennel@ualberta.ca or Tel (780) 492-2889. Website: <http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/rehabmed/PhysicalTherapy.cfm>

Rank and salary will be commensurate with qualifications at the Assistant Professor level. Applications will be accepted until the positions are filled. The positions are available as soon as suitable candidates are found. Interested applicants should send curriculum vitae and a statement of teaching and research interests and the names of three (3) references to:

Dr. Albert Cook, Dean
Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine
3-48 Corbett Hall
University of Alberta
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T6G 2G4
Phone: 403-492-5991/ Fax: 403-492-1626
Email: Al.Cook@ualberta.ca

ASSISTANT OR ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR FACULTY OF REHABILITATION MEDICINE

The University of Alberta – Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine, Department of Speech Pathology & Audiology and Institute for Stuttering Treatment and Research invite applications for a researcher at the level of Assistant or Associate Professor. Qualified candidates should hold a doctoral degree and demonstrate outstanding potential for an independent research career in fluency disorders. Candidates will establish a novel research program in collaboration with the Institute for Stuttering Treatment and Research and with other researchers. A strong background in neuroscience and/or clinical research is highly desirable.

The position will be dedicated primarily to research but will offer opportunities for graduate teaching and research supervision. This position will be supported by four years of bridge funding to enable the establishment of a productive research program. To sustain the position and be eligible for a tenure-track appointment, the candidate will be expected to obtain a personnel award from an external granting agency such as Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research (www.ahfmr.ab.ca) or the Canadian Institutes for Health Research (www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca). The granting of these highly competitive awards is on the basis of excellence.

Salary is commensurate with qualifications and experience. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. The position is available as soon as a suitable candidate is found. Candidates should forward their curriculum vitae, copies of recent publications, an outline of research and clinical interests and the names of three referees to:

Dr. Albert Cook, Dean
Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine
3-48 Corbett Hall
University of Alberta
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T6G 2G4
Phone 780-492-5991; Fax 780-492-1626
Email: al.cook@ualberta.ca

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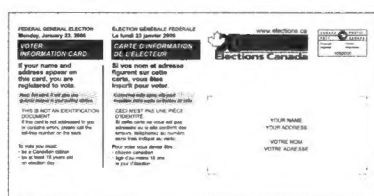
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notices

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CALL FOR PROPOSALS, 2006 ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE CANADIAN SOCIETY FOR BIOENGINEERING

Call for presentations and papers for the 2006 Annual Conference of the Canadian Society for Bioengineering, on July 16-19th, 2006, in Edmonton, Alberta. The theme of the conference is "Seeing I to I - Integrity and Integration in Bioengineering." Submit your proposal related to bioengineering in: food and bio-products; agricultural production; machinery systems; soil, water, and air; building systems; animal welfare; information technology; waste management and bio-residuals; renewable energy and biofuels; emerging technologies and issues. Submit your proposal by March 15th, 2006. Fantasyland Hotel and Conference Centre, West Edmonton Mall, Edmonton, AB. <http://www.bioeng.ca/Events/Edm2006/index.htm>.

3M TEACHING FELLOWSHIPS 2006 - CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The 3M Teaching Fellowships Award is a joint project of 3M Canada Inc. and the Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education (STLHE), initiated in 1986 by STLHE. Up to 10 awards are given annually. The University of Alberta has 24 3M Teaching Fellows. The 3M Teaching Fellowships represent Canada's only national award for university educators. Any individual teaching at a Canadian university (regardless of discipline or level of appointment) is eligible. An all expense paid three-day (November 4-6, 2006) retreat at the Fairmont Le Château Montebello is a main component of the award. Nomination information is available at www.mcmaster.ca/3Mteachin_gfellowships. Email enquiries should be directed to Arshad Ahmad, or (514) 848-2424 ext. 2928 or 2793. Assistance is also available from Bente Roed, Academic Awards and Ceremonies, B19 Administration Building, 492-2644. The nomination package must be received at Bente Roed's office by noon, February 15, 2006 to meet the external deadline of March 3, 2006. B19 Administration Building.

ALAN BLIZZARD AWARD 2006 CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The Alan Blizzard Award, which has a deadline of January 13, 2006, was developed by the Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education (STLHE) to stimulate and reward collaboration in teaching and to encourage and disseminate the scholarship of teaching. The award is given to collaborative projects that increase the effectiveness of student learning. The first award was given in 2000, teams from the University of Alberta received the award in 2000 and 2003. The application form is available at www.mcmaster.ca/stlhe/awards.alan.blizzard.htm. Email enquiries should be directed to Aline Germain-Rutherford, or (613) 562-5333. Assistance is also available from Bente Roed, Academic Awards and Ceremonies, B19 Administration Building, 492-2644. B19 Administration Building.

EFF - UNIVERSITY TEACHING RESEARCH FUND APPLICATION DEADLINE

The deadline for receipt of applications to the EFF - University Teaching Research Fund is 15 February.

This fund was established to support research on teaching-learning. The intended outcome is to enhance the quality of teaching and learning for students.

Application forms are available from the Office of the Vice-Provost, 2-10 University Hall, phone: 2-1503; or from our website: <http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/provost/AwardsFunding.cfm>

AWARDS FOR TEACHING EXCELLENCE

The GFC University Teaching Awards Committee (UTAC) announces to the university community that nominations are now being sought for the annual Rutherford Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching, WH Alexander Award for Excellence in Sessional Teaching and the Teaching Unit Award. The purpose of these awards is to recognize excellent teaching, to publicize such excel-

lence to the university and the wider community, to encourage the pursuit of excellence in teaching, and to promote informed discussion of teaching and its improvement at the University of Alberta. Nominations are made by faculties that teach undergraduate students, and information about the nomination procedures and adjudication criteria has been sent to those faculties. Nominations should be made through a faculty committee and submitted by the Faculty to the Secretary of GFC UTAC, 2-5 University Hall. Anyone needing assistance and advice in preparing nominations should contact Ms. Bente Roed, Teaching Awards Facilitator, Office of the Registrar and Student Awards, B19B Administration Building (492-2644). The deadline for receipt of award nominations is Friday, February 24, 2006 at 4:30 pm. Please note that, in most cases, individual Faculties have established earlier deadlines to allow for internal adjudication procedures. 2-5 University Hall. https://www.conman.ualberta.ca/stellent/groups/public/@academic/documents/policy/pp_cmp_060320.hcsp

EFF - FSIDA (FUND FOR SUPPORT OF INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES) APPLICATION DEADLINE

The deadline for receipt of applications to the EFF - FSIDA is 4:30 PM, January 16, 2006. The next competition deadline date is April 17, 2006.

This Fund exists to enable staff and graduate students of the University of Alberta to participate in research and in the international transfer of knowledge and expertise through partnerships in developing countries.

Applications and guidelines are available on the University of Alberta International website <www.international.ualberta.ca> or from the FSIDA Secretary at University of Alberta International, 1204 College Plaza, 8215-112 Street, telephone 492-2391.

2006-2007 KILLAM ANNUAL PROFESSORSHIPS

Applications for the 2006-2007 Killam Annual Professorships are now available. All regular, continuing, full-time academic faculty members who are not on leave during 2006-2007 are eligible to apply. Deans, Department Chairs and other senior university administrators with personnel responsibilities shall not normally be eligible for Killam Annual Professorships. Associate Deans and Associate Department Chairs are eligible providing they do not have personnel responsibilities. Up to eight Killam Annual Professors will be selected by a subcommittee of the Killam Trusts Committee; no more than two Professorships shall be awarded to staff members in any one faculty in any given year. Each Killam Annual Professor shall be presented with a \$3500 prize and a commemorative plaque. The duties of Killam Annual Professors shall not be changed from those that they regularly perform as academic staff members.

The primary criterion for selection shall be a record of outstanding scholarship and teaching over three or more years as evidenced by any or all of research publications, creative activities, presented papers, supervision of graduate students, and courses taught. The secondary criterion shall be substantial contributions to the community outside the university, above and beyond what is usually expected of a professor, as evidenced by community involvement directly linked to the applicant's University responsibilities and activities.

Awards are tenable for twelve months commencing 1 July 2005. The completed application must be received at the Office of the Vice-President (Research), 3-7 University Hall, by 4:30 p.m., Friday 24, February 2006. The awardees shall be announced by early May, and they will be formally recognized at the Killam Luncheon in Oct. 2006.

Applications and further details are available on the home page of the Vice-President (Research) at: <http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/vpresearch/>

Please contact Annette Kujda, Administrative Officer, Office of the Vice-President (Research) at 492-8342 or annette.kujda@ualberta.ca with any questions.



ON MAY 20, 2003, ALBERTA'S BEEF INDUSTRY CHANGED OVERNIGHT.

As the primary player in Canada's export beef industry, Alberta was hit extremely hard by the discovery of a cow on an Alberta farm with BSE (bovine spongiform encephalopathy). Though the provincial government has stringent testing in place for BSE, there is still much to be done to understand and prevent this and other prion-related diseases.

Alberta is now home to the Alberta Prion Research Institute, a \$35 million investment from the Government of Alberta to help the province become a world leader in prion research. The Prion Institute is recruiting top researchers and is building partnerships with industry, academic researchers and public policy makers to provide Alberta-based solutions to global prion-related issues affecting animal and human health.

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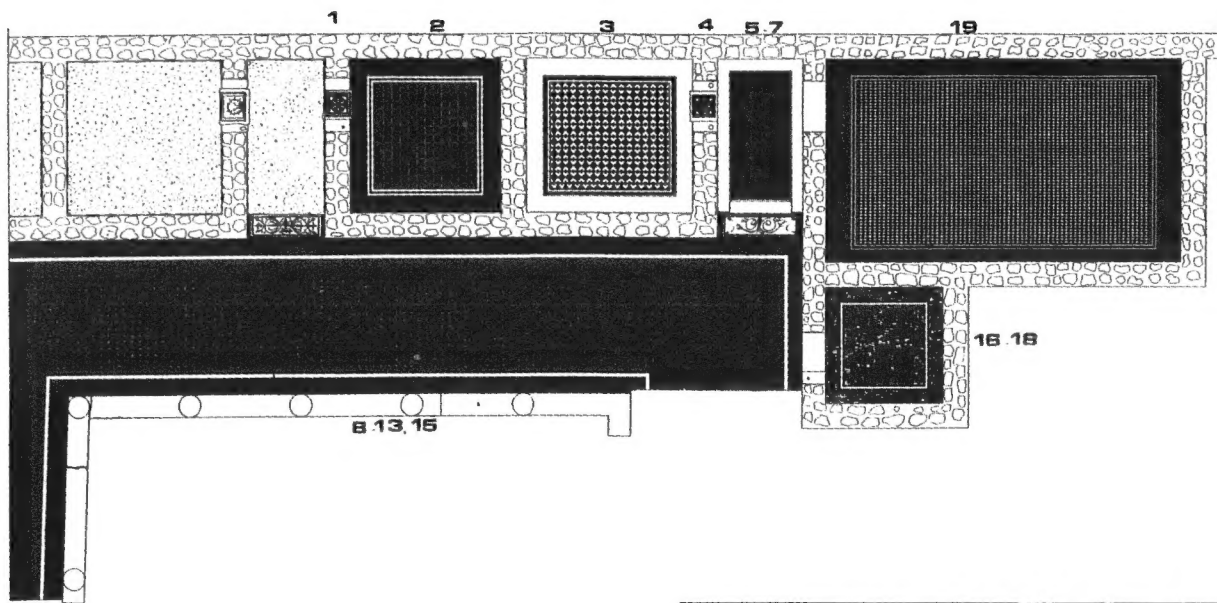
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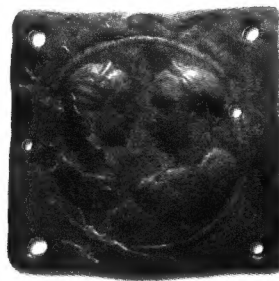
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digging up the past



University's school at Cortona unearths Italian history

By Richard Cairney

A new museum in Italy has received wide public acclaim for the innovative didactic diachronic display of artifacts from both the Etruscan and Roman periods – thanks in part to the work of University of Alberta researchers and students.

The Museo dell'Accademia Etrusca e della Città di Cortona (Museum of the Etruscan Academy and of the City of Cortona) opened at Cortona, Italy, last fall.

The museum consists of two parts. One portion, pertaining to the Etruscan past of the city and territory of Cortona, is made up of two collections. One consists of a pre-existing collection of the Etruscan Academy, and the other consists of material from excavations carried out more recently, but still pertaining to the Etruscans.

Material from the more recent excavations are part of a research program aimed at understanding Cortona's ancient past, from the Etruscans through the Romans. It includes four rooms and a long hallway dedicated to Roman Cortona.

"Three of those rooms and the hallway contain exclusively the material from the U of A excavations at the Roman site of Ossaia, that has been going on since 1992," said Dr. Helena Fracchia, a professor of history and classics who is also director of the Faculty of Arts' school in Cortona and



director of the U of A's archaeological field school in Italy.

"Our students have unearthed all the material in those rooms. So, in terms of the whole collection, the remains and artifacts that our students have dug up documents the development of the entire Roman period in the new Cortona museum."

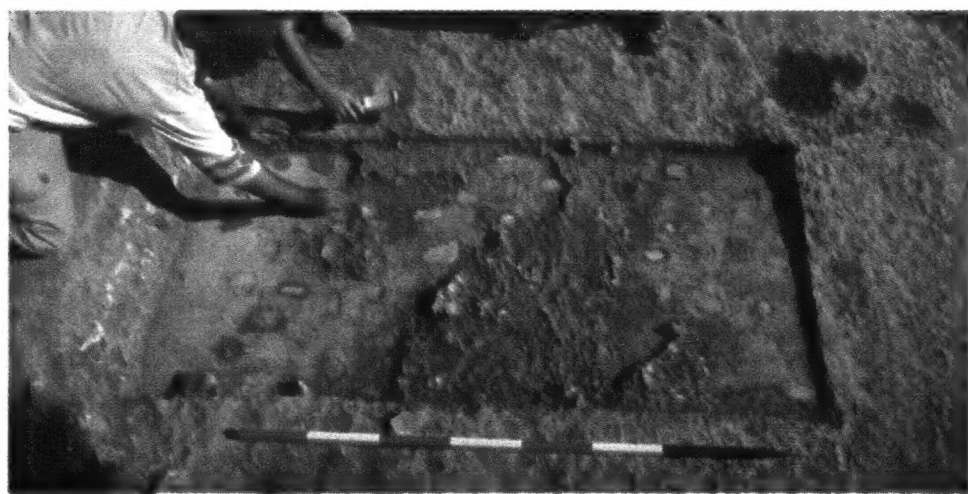
The time period covers the second century, B.C. to the sixth century, A.D. The artifacts were unearthed by U of A students between 1992 and 2005, shedding

light on the area's transformation from the Etruscans to the Romans.

"The material from the site includes earlier Etruscan artifacts when the site was a rural Etruscan sanctuary, and then in particular, the remains document the evolution of the use of the site into a Roman villa. The site also provides the evidence for the social transformations that occurred in settlement patterns in the territory around Cortona during that time," she said.

"Not much exists of Roman Cortona because medieval and modern Cortona sit on top of the ancient city, the villa site also allows us to shed light on the history of the Roman evolution of the town as well."

At the opening ceremonies, attended by officials from the Italian Government, the Region of Tuscany, and the Town of Cortona, the Vice Ambassador of Canada, Peter McKellar, praised the Canadian contribution made by the students from the University of Alberta. ■



folio back page

Students at the University of Alberta's school at Cortona, Italy, have unearthed important pieces of the area's past. Their findings are part of an exhibit at the new Museum of the Etruscan Academy and the City of Cortona, which opened last fall. For more on the U of A's school in Cortona, visit www.ualberta.ca/foliointernational.